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HISTORY OF
FRESNO COUNTY

CALIFORNIA

WITH

Biographical Sketches

OF

*The Leading Men and Women of the County Who have
been Identified with its Growth and
Development from the Early
Days to the Present*



HISTORY BY

PAUL E. VANDOR

ILLUSTRATED
COMPLETE IN TWO VOLUMES

HISTORIC RECORD COMPANY
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

1919

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Q 13 Shaver

BIOGRAPHICAL

CHARLES B. SHAVER.—A very important factor in the promotion of the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, was the late Charles B. Shaver, who located in Fresno in 1892. Being a man of extensive experience in the lumber business he foresaw the possibilities of the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, an enterprise which had just been organized, and immediately bought an interest in the company and at once assumed charge of the construction, completing the surveys and building the flumes from Stevenson Creek, where the company built a dam sixty feet high, to Clovis, Fresno County, the flume being forty and one quarter miles in length, and requiring 9,000,000 feet of lumber to construct and an expense of \$200,000. At the same time the construction of mills in the mountains was begun and carried to completion, two years being occupied in preparation for this extensive work. The planing mills, box factory and dry kilns of the company are located in Clovis, to which place the lumber is brought down by the flume. The output of this great enterprise is shipped to all parts of the world. To the energy, enterprise and experience of Charles B. Shaver, is due the culmination of this important undertaking, which has proved of such great importance in the development of this section of Fresno County.

Charles B. Shaver was a native of Steuben County, N. Y. where he was born in 1855, a son of John L. Shaver who was a native of Delaware County, of the same state. John L. Shaver was a miller in New York state until 1864, when he removed to St. Louis, Gratiot County, Mich. where he engaged in farming and continued to make his home until his death, which occurred at the age of seventy-four years. His wife, who in maidenhood, was Mary Rose, has also passed away. Charles B. Shaver was next to the youngest child in a family of four and received his early education in the public schools of Michigan, to which state he moved with his parents when a lad of nine years. At the age of nineteen he engaged in lumbering and was employed by Whitney and Stinchfield of Detroit, Mich., later becoming a foreman in the woods and in which position he remained until 1882, when he resigned and accepted a position with A. B. Long and Son of Grand Rapids, Mich. While in their employ he assisted in the building of the logging railway and became interested in their mills and lumber plant until 1889, when he resigned and became associated with the White Friant Lumber Company, with whom he continued two years and during which time he constructed fourteen miles of logging railway and put in over one hundred million feet of logs. In 1891 he went to Missouri where he built a mill for Boyden and Wyman Lumber Company, at Neelysville, Mo. In 1892, he migrated to California and located at Fresno, where he was instrumental in the building and the development of the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company, becoming the president of the organization in 1894. He was also a member of the Pine Box and Lumber Company, of San Francisco, and the California Sugar and White Pine Agency, in both of which companies he served as a director.

In Grand Rapids, Mich. on December 6, 1883, Charles B. Shaver was united in marriage with Lena A. Roberts, a native of Pennsylvania. This union was blessed with three children: Grace, who is the wife of Captain H. J. Craycroft, U. S. A. medical detachment; Mrs. Ethel Hoover; and Doris who is the wife of Harold McDonald, of Fresno.

After a very active and successful career, Charles B. Shaver passed away on Christmas day, 1907. Fraternally, he was a Mason, having joined the organization in Edmore, Mich., later becoming a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M.; he also belonged to Trigo Chapter No. 69, Fresno Lodge No. 29, K. T., Lodge of Perfection at Fresno and Islam Temple A. A. O. N. M. S. of San Francisco. He was a member of Fresno Lodge No. 439 B. P. O. Elks, the Chamber of Commerce and the Sequoia Club.

A. G. WISHON.—Prominent among the citizens of widely-felt influence in both the commercial and financial circles of Fresno, and one whose contributions to the development of the resources of the San Joaquin Valley have proven of inestimable value and are generally recognized, is A. G. Wishon, the worthy representative of a family that traces its ancestry with justifiable pride through the history of the State of North Carolina, back to the romantic days of la belle France. He was born in Phelps County, Mo., on November 6, 1858, the son of Marion Wishon, a native of East St. Louis, Ill., who was a farmer and merchant at St. James, in Phelps County, and a man of unusual ability. He interested himself for years in fostering the best movements for the community, and consented to serve as the first Sheriff—and an intrepid one, too—of that county. He married Miss Mary Coppedge of Missouri, a daughter of Lindsay L. Coppedge, a Virginian and an honored member of an old and distinguished family of that State. He came to be a pioneer settler of Pulaski County, Mo., and for sixty years resided at Coppedge Mills, a place named from the mill he established there. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Marion Wishon, among whom the subject of this review is the eldest; and five of whom, and also the mother, are now residing in California.

After completing his education at the Missouri School of Mines, at Rolla, Mo., a branch of the well-endowed University of Missouri, A. G. Wishon at the age of eighteen became dependent upon his own resources and was for a while employed in the office of the wholesale grocery firm of Moody, Michel and Company of St. Louis. Later, he traveled through the South for the Adler Goldman Company, cotton brokers and commission merchants of the same city, and after that he engaged in mercantile business for himself and successfully conducted stores at Sullivan and Stanton, Franklin County, and at St. James, Mo. When he disposed of his stores, he became chief of office for Captain R. M. Peck, superintendent of bridges and buildings of the Missouri Pacific Railroad at Pacific, a town in Franklin County; and on resigning from that trust in 1888, he migrated to California with so many thousands of others who were attracted here through the great land boom of the late eighties.

Arriving in the Golden State, he associated himself with the old San Joaquin Lumber Company at Tulare, at that time under the general management of T. G. Yancey, and local management of E. Lathrop, and subsequently he filled the position of cashier and bookkeeper for the Tulare County Bank. Still later, he opened an office in Tulare for the promotion of various enterprises and the disposition of lands, and he became a notable factor in the promotion of pump irrigation in the San Joaquin Valley, a scientific enterprise that soon rendered highly productive vast areas of land which hitherto could not be profitably cultivated.

Mr. Wishon's first extensive project was the building of the Exeter Ditch, for which the water was brought from the Kaweah River above Lemon Cove, and along the base of the hills almost to Lindsay, Tulare County, a distance of about twenty miles. At the time when this difficult and expensive task was undertaken, there was not an orange or lemon grove in the region designed to be supplied by the canal, but through his successful completion of the work he transformed the country into one of the best citrus-fruit producing sections of the State. He financed the enterprise and after its com-

pletion sold his lands at a handsome, deserved profit; and some of the acreage then disposed of includes today some of the finest California groves.

Another important enterprise which was fostered and developed by A. G. Wishon, and which has brought to so many incalculable returns, was the organization of the Mt. Whitney Power Company, which was the pioneer in electrical pumping in California. Having secured the rights to the headwaters of the Kaweah, he then associated with him as partner William H. Hammond, brother of John Hays Hammond, the famous mining expert, and installed a power plant, and not only did he bring the project to a reality, but he himself managed the enterprise until its success was assured. This plant distributes power and light to Tulare, Visalia, Exeter, Porterville and Lindsay.

In May, 1903, Mr. Wishon became the General Manager of the San Joaquin Power Company of Fresno, and soon after Vice-President, Director and Manager of the Fresno City Railroad, and Vice-President and Manager of the Fresno Water Company. In 1904, foreseeing the increasing appeal of Nature's wonderland and the rapid advances in population, he was active in the organization of the Fresno Traction Company, with a capitalization of \$5,000,000, to absorb the Fresno City Railroad and to construct a line to the Yosemite Valley, a distance of eighty miles through a most picturesque section of the State, and he has gradually become associated with many other California enterprises, a number of which he helped to found.

On October 5, 1881, Mr. Wishon was united in marriage with Miss Henrietta Emory, a native of Steelville, Mo., and the daughter of Azro Emory of St. James, Mo., members of the Emory family that has already given to the advance intellectual guard of America a leading bishop, an educator, a soldier of prominence and a naval official who distinguished himself while commanding the Bear of the Greely Relief Expedition. The ceremony was solemnized at St. James, Mo., and of that happy union two children were born, Emory and Jenny.

Fraternally, Mr. Wishon is a Mason and a charter member of Las Palmas Lodge, F. & A. M., at Fresno, and also of other branches of the order. He belongs as well to the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, where he is never found wanting when expected to put his shoulder to the wheel, and to the Sequoia, Commercial, University and Sunnyside clubs of Fresno, the California Club of Los Angeles, and various other representative organizations throughout the state.

JAMES C. PHELAN.—The automobile garage owned by James C. Phelan, and named after him, is cleverly planned, well built, and managed according to up-to-date methods. Mr. Phelan's father, who was an honored veteran of the Union Army in our Civil War, is D. F. Phelan, and he is still living at Los Angeles. Prior to casting his lot in the Golden State, he was a pioneer in Colorado. Mrs. Phelan, who was Annie Donahue before her marriage, is deceased.

Born in the Centennial State on October 25, 1867, James C. Phelan was educated at the public schools in Colorado and New Mexico, and also, as he likes to put it, in "the great school of experience." As a young man, he ventured in both the grocery and butcher business, having a store when only nineteen years of age, at Albuquerque, N. M. For fourteen years, too, his business at Williams, Arizona, was one of the most progressive and profitable establishments in that town.

On September 9, 1893, Mr. Phelan was married to Miss Myrtie Dickinson, and this union was blessed with three boys and four girls, viz: Mary M., Chris E., Roy N., Jimmie J., Ruth E., Bernice L., and Leoma C., all of whom were educated in the public schools of Fresno, the two eldest studied at Heald's Business College, while Roy N., is a student at the University of California at Berkeley. Mr. Phelan has accepted the doctrines of the Chris-

tian Scientists, socially he finds recreation in the circles of the Woodmen of the World, the Knights of Pythias, and the Young Men's Christian Association.

In May, 1916, he built the finest and most complete auto establishment in California, spending \$90,000 upon the same. He then became agent, for the San Joaquin Valley, of the Maxwell, Mitchell and Marmon automobiles, and the Kleiber and Maxwell Trucks. He employs from forty to fifty men to man the several departments, each of which is complete in itself. When he first came to California, in 1905, he worked for three years on the Fresno ranch; and then, getting into the automobile business in a modest way, he has made success after success. Mr. Phelan sold out in August, 1919.

Mr. Phelan is a staunch Democrat, but always something more than a political partisan. In advocating and working for good roads, for example, his public-spiritedness has been particularly shown.

NELS HANSON.—Everybody in Kingsburg has a kind thought and a good word for Nels Hanson, who was born at Lund, Skaarn, Sweden, on December 8, 1858, and reared in the old university town, where he began his education at the public schools. His father was Hanson Hanson, a farmer in modest circumstances who lived to be only thirty-three years of age and died in Sweden. His mother, Elna Peterson before her marriage, also lived and died where she was married. As a lad of seven, Nels, while attending the Lutheran Church, in which faith his parents brought him up, worked in a woolen mill at Lund, continuing there for five and a half hard years. After that he served a three years' apprenticeship to the tanners' trade, working for the well-known tanner and capitalist, Thelander, and becoming a journeyman in 1879.

Having thus equipped himself for a definite line of labor in life, Nels, in the latter part of 1880 sailed from Copenhagen for New York, and once safely within the borders of the United States, he made his way to Chicago, where, for three months, he worked at the tanner's trade. Then he joined a construction gang on the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railway in Iowa, but in a short time he came back to Chicago and in the fall of that year went with some companions to Ishpeming, Mich., and there undertook to work in the mines. In time he became foreman and inspector, and received the highest wages paid to anyone there. After several years he became an independent mine contractor; and while saving his money, he sent it to a partner, Charles Carlson, at Kingsburg, now deceased, with whom he had purchased some eighty choice acres, which Carlson was farming to grain.

As a result of this investment, Nels arrived in Kingsburg early in the spring of 1888. He liked the town from the very first, although he was fated to suffer heavily in the panics during the Cleveland administration. In May, 1888, Mr. Hanson, longing to see the scenes of his native land, made a trip back to his old home at Lund. He wished also to meet again his fiancée, Cecelia Hanson (of the same name, but of no kinship), to whom he had been engaged for ten years; and the result of this meeting was that Miss Hanson came out to America, and they were married at Kingsburg on September 25, 1888. Now they are the parents of four children: Frank, who was in Company B, Three Hundred Sixty-fourth Regiment, Infantry, Washington, and at Camp Lewis, later served with the Ninety-first Division in the Argonne in France, became automatic gunner, was gassed, arrived home and was honorably discharged at Camp Kearney and reached home April 26, 1919; Alfred, who married Emma Peterson of Kingsburg, and is a rancher; Victor, who lives at home; and Henry, a graduate of the Kingsburg High School, Class of 1916, and who was in the military police at Camp Fremont.

When Messrs. Hanson and Carlson sold the eighty acres referred to, they accepted, as part of the sale price, a note for \$1,800, but the purchaser having defaulted in his payments, Mr. Hanson had to take back part of the land—for him a disappointment through which, at the time, he saw only mis-



Paul Vander

fortune and the necessity of his remaining at Kingsburg. Instead of a loss, however, it has proven a most valuable holding; half of it lies within the incorporated limits of Kingsburg, and such is the location that it is constantly advancing in worth. For six months Mr. Hanson remained at Kingsburg making improvements, and then he went to Portland, Ore., and became a bridge carpenter.

At the termination of three months, Mr. Hanson came back to California and Kingsburg, and continued improving the land. He planted twelve and a half acres to muscats, and the balance to alfalfa. He put up the customary outbuildings, and erected a comfortable, ornate residence, so that as a home-place he has succeeded in evolving a choice country property. Mr. Hanson also owns a vineyard of twenty acres one and a half miles north of Kingsburg, which he has set out to zinfandels, and twenty acres set out to Thompson's seedless grapes; and he has forty acres four miles west, all in muscats, planted by himself and now ten years old.

As a public-spirited citizen, Mr. Hanson has done his full duty in serving on federal and trial juries; while he has contributed to the social life of the community in his activity within the circles of the Masons and in particular within the Traver Lodge, No. 294, at Kingsburg. He is well-informed, progressive and withal a man of large heart; and his excellent wife is a true companion.

PAUL E. VANDOR.—The life career of Paul E. Vador, writer of this History of Fresno County, is typical of the varied experiences and activities common to that remarkable product of American institutions, the newspaper writer—that restless, indefatigable worker that is ever in touch with the popular pulse, that aids in directing public opinion and while wielding an invisible but conscious power yet sinks individuality in the impersonality of his work, that contributes to and encourages the development and permanent exploitation of communities, and that, while giving the best years of life and an unimpeachable loyalty to a chosen vocation, seldom reaps personal reward for his unceasing efforts in behalf of the public weal. This newspaper class or body of journalists has humorously perhaps been named the Fourth Estate to distinguish an acknowledged power in the state body politic, distinct from the three recognized political or social orders. The subject of this sketch was born at Milwaukee, Wis., June 13, 1858, and is the eldest son of three living children. His father, who died in San Francisco in the seventies, was Joseph Vador, a Hungarian nobleman, who was a major in the Austrian army. He cast his lot with Kossuth and the Hungarian revolution of 1848-49, but with its collapse and the loss of ancestral estate, escheated to the Crown, fled proscribed to America, sailing from Glasgow, Scotland, as the last port of embarkation. On December 4, 1849, he arrived in the United States in such an impoverished state that, with ignorance of the English language, life for him in the new land was beset by many vicissitudes, and he was reduced to manual labor for a livelihood. Gaining after a time a working knowledge of the language, the while economizing strictly to meet the demands of his necessities, he gave instruction in German, French and fencing, and also did amanuensis work and so worked his way through Harvard Law School, from which he was graduated. Eventually, he moved to Wisconsin to engage in the practice of law at Milwaukee.

On August 22, 1857, in that comfortable city, Joseph Vador was married to Miss Pauline Knobelsdorf, who had come to America in childhood, and whose family had settled at Milwaukee. She was of gentle birth, a lineal descendant of the Major von Knobelsdorf who was distinguished as the royal architect of Frederick the Great and who planned and constructed for him the first edifices that marked the Unter den Linden in Berlin. This bit of ancestral history is the more interesting in our story because Mr. Vador's grandfather on the paternal side was a tutor and mentor of the Duke of

Reichstadt—Napoleon II., son of Napoleon Bonaparte. His grandmother was a lady-in-waiting of the duke's mother, Marie Louise of Austria. Mrs. Pauline Vador was one of the pioneer settlers of West Park Colony in Fresno. She died in Fresno City, May 7, 1907. She was a woman of indomitable energy, and an intensely loyal American of the type so often found among those of favored birth in foreign lands who have chosen the American republic as their home.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, Joseph Vador was commissioned a Colonel by Alexander Williams Randall (the plucky governor of Wisconsin who had called a regiment into existence without authority of the legislature), to organize the Seventh Wisconsin Infantry Regiment, later a unit of the historic Iron Brigade, but as the outgrowth of a cabal in the regiment, nurtured by jealousy of his military proficiency as evidenced by his being called upon to act in the capacity of brigade commander, an attempt was made upon his life. Under cover of night, he was shot in the shoulder by an unknown assassin, who fired at him through his tent and inflicted a wound which developed into a malignant cancer. He resigned his military command, and with the helpful recommendations of such influential men as Governor Randall, Carl Schurz, Governor Salmon Portland Chase, the Secretary of the Treasury, and William H. Seward, Secretary of State, President Lincoln appointed him American Consul at Papeiti, chief town of Tahiti, for the French protectorate in the Society Islands, and in those days station of the New England whalers in the Southern Pacific.

Colonel Vador's loyalty to the country of his adoption was intense, and the American flag such an object of veneration for him that our subject recalls how he quelled a native insurrection on the island of Huaheine by the display of Old Glory from the masthead of the little Tahitian schooner aboard which was the consular party. The flag was run up while the insurgents on the beach fired on the craft and refugees swam out or canoed to the schooner for protection. Speaking of these romantic but exciting days, Mr. Vador says: "My father knocked me flat upon the deck, to escape the bullets he heard whistling on their flight toward us, but for which and being in the line of range, I might not have survived to tell the tale. I can recall, also, that often he emerged from the consulate at Papeiti to liberate American sailors from the custody of Kanaka policemen, indignant at their practice of tying prisoners' wrists behind their backs for want of handcuffs, and then roundly castigating the policemen. At that time, as a small boy, I was familiar with the Kanaka language of the Islands, and could read it as printed in the French Jesuit or English Episcopalian missionary books; and although only a child in years I was the interpreter for the consulate. I accompanied my father on official tours of the islands in the archipelago, and rendered the translations of Kanaka into the German or French, as I had only an indifferent knowledge of English."

The serious nature of the Colonel's wound, and the education of his three children, prompted him to resign the consulship, and the family arrived in San Francisco, in April, 1869. Colonel Vador took up the practice of law, became prominent in the Grand Army of the Republic, and a leader in the German-speaking colony, still including many of the most loyal and most efficient citizens of the state. Because of the evil effects of the wound upon his health, he declined the political preferments from time to time offered him. Before his death in the middle seventies, and after the Franco-German War, he returned to Europe and journeyed to Paris and Vienna, to consult eminent surgeons; and after submitting to operations, he made a last pathetic visit to the estates at one time his ancestral possessions, and the grave of his mother in a closed Vienna cemetery, and returned home, never again to leave his bed. His remains lie in the family plot in the G. A. R. reservation of the Odd Fellows' Cemetery at San Francisco.

Paul E. Vador grew and thrived under somewhat disordered educational conditions. He was taught French by the Jesuit Fathers in the South Sea Islands, and, on return to his native land at the age of eleven, was French in spirit and habit, although German was spoken in the home circle. Attending the cosmopolitan public schools and a private collegiate institute in San Francisco, he began the study of English, of which he had only a smattering, gathered from an American school teacher, a protégé of the family while in the Islands. Being a voracious reader, he learned of himself to read and to write, delving into classic literature from the time when he read his first English book, Robinson Crusoe.

Newspaper work had for him its fascination even during boyhood, and as a school lad in the late seventies he was a publisher in San Francisco, when amateur journals were a juvenile fad. He once had the questionable credit, while in college, of being held to answer, with two older companions, on two charges of criminal libel lodged by a rival boy editor. The grand jury gave all concerned a lecture on the enormity of their offence, and then, after treating them to a good scare, made heroes of them all by ignoring the accusation. Mr. Vador studied law in San Francisco, thinking to make that his profession; but with the loss of family fortune following collapse of the mining-stock gamble of the late seventies in San Francisco, abandoned the law to take up newspaper writing. Today, he is the second oldest newspaper writer in point of continuous service in Fresno County. In his career he has been dramatic critic of the old Golden Era, a reporter for the Chronicle, the Evening Post, the Examiner, and the Morning Call, in San Francisco. He has also been a reporter on the Morning Telegram, the Argus and the Encinal of Alameda, and he has served in like capacity in Fresno with the Evening Expositor and the Democrat, the Morning Republican and at present is with the Evening Herald. Alternately, Mr. Vador has also been assistant city editor of the San Francisco Call and Editor of the Fresno Democrat. He has spent the major part of a busy life in the ever interesting city of San Francisco, of whose marvelous growth he was an eye-witness, and he has wept amid her devastated streets, when he beheld the aftermath of the earthquake and the big fire. While in San Francisco, he was a charter member of the first Press Club of 1880, whose supporters hobnobbed with and welcomed many of the notable literary men of the world as they sojourned in or passed through the Bay Metropolis and sipped of a life now largely a memory.

From January, 1885, until the Spanish-American War, Mr. Vador was in the California National Guard, having enlisted in Company G, First Infantry, Second Brigade, which with Company C as the mother organization dated from the days of 1856 and the San Francisco Vigilance Committee, and he held transfer memberships in Company G, in Alameda, Fifth Infantry, Second Brigade, and in Company F, in Fresno, of the Sixth Infantry and Third Brigade. Having been color-sergeant in the First Regiment, he was in his own company first sergeant, but he was rejected for service in the Spanish-American War on account of physical disability. A veteran member of the Nationals, Mr. Vador was a charter member of the Veterans' State Association of the National Guard. In national politics a Republican, Mr. Vador is locally decidedly non-partisan. A charter member of Pitiaches Tribe, No. 144, I. O. R. M., of Fresno, Mr. Vador is also a member of Manzanita Camp, No. 160, W. O. W. of Fresno. He also belongs to the Shaver Lake Fishing Club.

A Californian to the backbone, although compelled sincerely to regret that he was not born within the limits of the Golden State, Mr. Vador has made the study of California history a labor of love, and is recognized as an authority on Fresno County history. He has contributed on historical subjects to local publications, and has the honor of being a charter member of the Fresno County Historical Society. A member of no established church, Mr. Vador leans to Unitarianism.

JOHN B. MARSHALL.—Among the pioneer residents of Fresno County who have resided here for a quarter of a century, particular mention is made of John B. Marshall, now retired and living at 164 Echo Avenue, Fresno. He has devoted many years of his life to the development of this county, and is an enthusiastic booster and supporter of those movements, that have as their aim, the upbuilding of the county's best interests.

John B. Marshall was born March 6, 1845, in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. He attended the public schools of his native state, was reared on a farm, and when old enough, learned the trade of a blacksmith. Afterwards he was employed by Captain Shields, a railroad contractor in New Jersey, helping in the construction of the Lehigh Valley Railroad, and at one time followed farming in his native state. In 1878 Mr. Marshall migrated to the Great West, where he worked on railroad construction, as a blacksmith, for a contractor named Wolf, operating in the states of Iowa, Kansas, Wisconsin and Illinois. He also worked for the Santa Fe Railway Company in Canyon City, Colo. In 1882 he returned to New Jersey and engaged in farming; afterwards he was employed by his first employer, Mr. Shields, in railroad work. After his return to the east, he felt the insistent call of the Golden West, with its great attractions and unbounded possibilities. His second journey westward terminated on July 25, 1892, when he arrived in the Golden State and soon thereafter located in Fresno County, where he has resided ever since. During his long residence in the county Mr. Marshall has bought, sold, developed and traded many different pieces of property, and acquired quite an extensive holding of real estate: at present owning one-half section of land on the West Side of the county, two houses and five lots in the City of Fresno, six lots and one house in Sanger, two lots in Fresno Heights, two lots in East Richmond; he has also owned the following real estate, which he has sold or traded: twenty acres six miles northeast of Sanger; forty acres on McKinley Avenue; fifty-five acres in the California Poultry farm tract; and forty acres near Clovis. For three years he has farmed his West Side ranch to grain. Mr. Marshall has done his share in the developing of the county, and now in the afternoon of his life is living retired and enjoying the fruits of a life of industry and frugality.

MRS. EVA H. RAWSON.—A California woman who has won for herself an enviable name as a successful viticulturist, and who has a host of friends among those who admire her qualities as a cultured, refined and sympathetic fellowcitizen, is Mrs. Eva H. Rawson, a native of Woonsocket, R. I., the daughter of Captain William E. Hubbard, who was born near Franklin, Mass. Grandfather Elisha Hubbard died in Massachusetts, and the father, who was an architect and builder, settled at Woonsocket, where he became a contractor. He was one of the prominent builders of Woonsocket and among its most leading citizens; and ten years before his death he was able to retire. William E. Hubbard served in the Civil War as captain of Company F of the Twelfth Rhode Island Regiment, and saw plenty of hard campaigning. Later he was a prominent Mason. He had married Ruth Scott, of Scott Hill, Mass., and she was able to trace her family back to the Mayflower and then back to Europe. The mother died in Rhode Island.

Four of the five children are still living, and Mrs. Rawson is the third in order of birth. She is also the only one of the children living in California. Her full name was Eva Hortense Hubbard; she was reared in Woonsocket, and was graduated from the Woonsocket High School in 1884 and is a member of its Alumni Society. On August 22, 1888, she was married to Malcolm Augustus Rawson, who was born in Uxbridge, Mass., the son of James A. Rawson, who married Louisa Scott, of Massachusetts. The father was a stonemason and contractor, and both he and his wife died in Massachusetts.

Mr. Rawson was educated at the common and high schools, and Worcester Academy, and he became a pharmacist and followed the drug business for over forty years. He spent six years learning the business and as an em-



Eva Hubbard Rawson



Malcolm Hubbard Rawson

ploye of the Fenner Drug Company in Providence, and then for seventeen years was with the James McCord wholesale drug house of La Crosse, Wis., during which time he bought a drug store at Viroqua, Vernon County, the same state. He continued there until he went with Noyes Bros. & Cutler of St. Paul and also Meyers Bros. in St. Louis; and then, from the time of its organization, he became interested in the Iowa Drug Company of Des Moines, acting as vice-president of the concern. When he sold out, he located in Portland, Ore., and for twelve years, or until his death, he was traveling salesman of the Blumauer-Frank Drug Company. He died suddenly in Portland, on September 16, 1917, in his sixty-second year.

Meanwhile, as early as 1912, the Rawsons became interested in California by the purchase of twenty-one acres in the Vinland Colony, and in 1913 Mrs. Rawson began the improving of the property by erecting the usual buildings. In 1914 she set out a vineyard, sunk wells and installed a pumping-plant for irrigation, in connection with which she put in a cement pipe-line; and since that year have been planted all the Thompson seedless vines that make the tract such a good commercial ranch. It is conveniently located at the corner of Woodburn and Thompson Avenues, and the north line is on the San Joaquin River. The soil, therefore, is heavy rich bottom-land of white ash deposit, pronounced by experts the very best of all soil for Thompson seedless grapes. During the latter part of March, 1919, Mrs. Rawson added eighteen acres to her holdings, six acres being full bearing Thompson's and the balance she and her son have set to Thompson's.

Amid this superior vineyard Mrs. Rawson built her residence; and there, with the aid of her son, Malcolm Hubbard Rawson (born May 4, 1890, at La Crosse, Wis.), she personally superintends the farm-work. This one child was educated at the public schools, taking also the high school course, and also attending the Business College at Portland; he enlisted for service during the World War as a private and became Sergeant; was stationed at Camp Lewis, Wash., until discharged. Mrs. Rawson has adopted a child, Donald Dudley Rawson.

Mr. Rawson was a Mason, a Knight Templar and a Shriner, and belonged to the Episcopal Church. Mrs. Rawson and her son also belong to this same communion and continue their residence on White Crest Ranch (appropriately named by her husband) although she still owns valuable property in Portland. In national politics she is a loyal Republican, and she actively supports the California Associated Raisin Company.

EDWIN HERBERT SMITH.—A well-situated and prosperous California couple, both of whom are proud of their enviable relation to well-known pioneer families, who are still doing all that they can to improve that part of Fresno County in which they are especially interested, are Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Herbert Smith. Identified with the Golden State since birth, Mr. Smith was born at Cayucos, in San Luis Obispo County, on January 7, 1876, the son of C. A. Smith, a native of Calaveras County, Cal., where he was born in 1852. The grandfather, Edwin Herbert Smith, was born in Illinois and crossed the plains with ox teams about 1849, going to the Calaveras gold fields. In that vicinity and in San Luis Obispo, the father was reared, and he became a stockman and farmer, transacting a cattle business in different parts of the state and along the coast, and later he settled at Cayucos. He was in business for many years there, and now he is in Kern County, ranching at McKittrick, where he is opening up a new ranch. He married Ella Bailey, a native of Illinois, the daughter of William Bailey, who came to California when a child with her parents, and settled in Calaveras, and then moved to San Luis Obispo, homesteading east of Paso Robles. Mrs. Smith died in Santa Maria in 1892. Two children, a boy and a girl, were born of this union, and Edwin is the older of the family.

Edwin H. was brought up on a farm near the coast, and attended the public school there, and at the same time he learned farming and stock-rais-

ing. His mother died when he was sixteen years old, and then he began to paddle his own canoe. He was for some time employed at ranching, but in 1898 came to Fresno County where he leased land and engaged in stock-raising. He introduced the brand, a combination of the figure 4 and the letter B, resembling together the figure 8, and such was his success, that he made the brand have a distinctive value.

On April 16, 1904, E. H. Smith was married to Miss Nannie Manning, who was born at Hanford, the daughter of Elisha Arnold Manning, a native of Boston, Mass. Mrs. E. H. Smith, the youngest of five children now living, was educated at the common and high schools in Fresno. Soon after the marriage, Mr. Smith bought a half interest with his father-in-law in both land and the stock business. Following the division of their interests, Mr. Smith came to have, what he now controls, 760 acres in alfalfa and devoted to cattle-raising, and he also has a dairy. In 1918 he bought a ranch at Kerman, fourteen miles west of Fresno, consisting of 440 acres, and this he will use for stock-raising and alfalfa. He has many improvements there, including three pumping-plants.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith have one child, Adalene Manning. Mr. Smith was captain of the liberty loan and other drives in the Manning district, and did splendid work in supporting the Government in its war program. He is a Republican in national politics, and is especially interested in local movements that advance and build up the neighborhood.

HARRY W. HAGERTY.—When Harry W. Hagerty first opened his eyes to the light of the world, in Sierra County, in 1887, his parents, James and Hilca (Backer) Hagerty, planned a successful future for him, and his early training and education were along the lines of usefulness. His father was born in Pennsylvania, and came to California when a young man, hoping thereby to better his condition. He began farming in Nevada County, and while there married a native daughter of the state, Hilca Backer. Her father, Henry Backer, was a pioneer who lived for a time in Eureka, Sierra County, and then settled in Fresno County and bought two hundred acres of land. He was one of the very first settlers of Temperance Colony, where he raised potatoes, grain and stock. His land was all subirrigated. He did not live long to enjoy his new surroundings, for he died soon after he settled here. His widow was married again, to August Heringlake, and they continued farming, setting out vineyards and in other ways keeping abreast of the times. Mrs. Heringlake died about 1903. She was the mother of six children, of whom Mrs. Hagerty is third in order of birth. After his marriage, Mr. Hagerty opened a general merchandise store in Sierra City and conducted it very successfully for several years. He then came to Fresno County, bought a tract in Temperance Colony, and followed ranching until he began railroad-ing, in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railway. For a time was stationed at Sacramento, until he returned to private life, and he is now living at Penryn. His wife died in Fresno, leaving two children, Harry W., of this review; and Ernest, of Los Angeles.

From the age of five, Harry W. Hagerty was raised in Fresno County, where he attended the public schools of Temperance Colony, and the Fresno High School, from which he graduated in 1905. Reared in a county where viticulture is one of the principal sources of revenue, from an early age he was familiar with that branch of agriculture. After his graduation, he entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railway as a clerk in the office. In time, however, he decided that in order to get ahead and accomplish something worth while he would buy some land and take up the culture of vines; so he purchased forty acres at Mt. Campbell, set out a vineyard, and sold it in 1912 at a good profit. He then accepted a position with the Wallace Trust Company, which owns 870 acres in Fresno County, 640 acres in one body being devoted to vineyard, orchard and alfalfa; forty acres in oranges is situated

at Centerville, and 160 acres of farming land is located on the San Joaquin. He is superintendent of the entire tract, and supervises the conduct of the various branches of ranching carried on, which include, besides those above mentioned, the raising of wine grapes, cattle and horses. He gives his personal attention to his work and is making a name and place for himself in Fresno County.

Mr. Hagerty was married, in Fresno, to Maybelle Bitzer, a native of San Francisco, and they have two children: Jane Helen and William Jerome. Mr. Hagerty is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and is a stockholder, director and vice-president of the Backer Vineyard Company. The Backer estate consists of 760 acres of land in the county, of which 205 acres are in vineyards of table and raisin grapes, the remaining acres being devoted to grain farming. He also owns a twenty-acre vineyard in Eggers Colony, which is well improved, with a large modern residence. He is a popular and progressive young man, and a bright future is predicted for him by those who know him best.

HORACE E. BARNUM.—Probably no other state in the Union may boast of such a large number of pioneers, such as the late Horace E. Barnum, whose ancestry reaches back to the good old days of New England and has to do with the foundation of our great republic. He was born on May 9, 1854, near Hastings, Mich., the son of Philander Barnum, whose father, Elijah Barnum, was a New Englander who early removed to the wilderness of Barry County, Mich. He cleared a space in the forest and built a log cabin, and among the maple and beech trees, he created an attractive homestead, and there closed his days, having enjoyed life to the full with his family.

Philander Barnum grew up a farmer to succeed his father, and when he retired, he removed to Battle Creek whose climatic attractions were already being felt. He had married Harriet E. Bidwell, a native of Albion, Mich., who also came of a long line of New Englanders. They had five children. Mr. Barnum died at Battle Creek, and Mrs. Barnum at Hastings, and both were widely lamented.

Horace was the fourth child in the order of birth, and the only one to come to the Pacific Coast. He attended the public schools of Battle Creek and Albion, and in the middle of the seventies, just when California was getting ready to make its bow to the nation at the Philadelphia Centennial, he came west to the Golden State. He passed three years in the Sacramento Valley, then went to Washington, and after a year returned to California and located at Woodland. In Yolo County he followed agriculture for several years.

With T. L. Reed Mr. Barnum came south to the San Joaquin Valley in 1885, and leased the South Mountain tract. He had to break seven or eight sections of the land, and needed to employ from eight to ten horses on a plow; but he was rewarded by a large crop of grain, although he had to haul it sixteen miles to market. In time, Mr. Reed offered him 160 acres of land in Tulare County for his interest in the firm, and in Tulare Mr. Barnum farmed for a year.

Removing then to Lemoore, Mr. Barnum embarked in the hotel business for a year, but was burned out. He resumed hotel management in Reedley, however, and also invested in twenty acres of land for an orchard. He had just entered upon the contract and made the first payment, when he met with a frightful accident that might easily have cost him his life, and that would have robbed most men of courage and the stuff needed to go forward. A gun placed in the buggy in which he was returning from hunting fell and discharged its contents into his side and shoulder, causing such a wound that the surgeon had to amputate the arm. Nevertheless, Mr. Barnum prepared his land for irrigation, made a park on the river bank, set out an orchard and went ahead with his projects in hotel management.

Not so long after, Mr. Barnum was appointed constable, and at the end of a year, he entered on a two-year term as roadmaster. His conscientious and able discharge of duties in these offices led to his being called for as Republican candidate for County Auditor in 1894, and he was elected by a plurality of six hundred votes for a term of four years. In 1898, was renominated for the same office, and was elected over the fusion candidate by a majority of one hundred eight votes, being one of two Republicans to reach office that year. In 1902, a majority of seventeen hundred votes, the largest vote in the county, enabled him to lead his ticket and again to be reelected. In 1906 and in 1910 he was again elected, each time without opposition, and he had announced his candidacy for 1914, when sickness and death interfered. He died on June 15, 1914. To permit himself to reside near his office, Mr. Barnum removed from his ranch to Fresno, and for years lived in this city.

While in Yolo County in 1894, Mr. Barnum was married at Woodland to Miss Mary Eva Dearing, daughter of John and Ellen Dearing, among the sturdiest and most honored pioneers of that county. She was born in Morgan Valley, Lake County, and two children blessed their union—Ida May, Mrs. F. F. Minard; and Charles E. Mrs. Barnum, who has been a consistent Baptist, is living in Fresno.

Besides being active in Chamber of Commerce work, and in national politics under the banners of the Republican party, Mr. Barnum was an Elk, a Knight of Pythias, a member of the Ancient Order of United Workmen, a Forester, and a Woodman of the World. He had a strong, impressive personality, a large heart, high ideals and a winning disposition; was a good citizen and a good friend.

JASPER E. MITCHELL.—In these days of strenuous effort the man who hopes to acquire success in any calling must be one of brains and persistency, with a thorough knowledge of the work to which he is devoting his attention, and such a man is Jasper E. Mitchell of Fresno. He was born in Kansas, October 12, 1876, a son of Edgar R. and Cynthia (Hayes) Mitchell, natives of Illinois and Missouri, respectively, and who became the parents of three children. The family left Kansas in 1877, emigrating westward and for about sixteen years resided in Colorado, then in 1893 continued their journey to the Pacific Coast and settled in Tulare County, Cal. It was about eighteen months later that they made their way into Fresno County, where the elder Mitchell engaged in the livery business, with the other two sons, E. R., Jr., and F. H. Here they continued four years, then left and the father now resides in Fresno where he is engaged in the real estate business.

At the age of one year Jasper E. Mitchell was taken by his parents to Colorado, where he grew up and received his schooling until he was about seventeen, when he accompanied the family to California. Here he began to learn an entirely new business, then in its infancy in this state, that of fruit-growing, buying, packing and selling. So well did he succeed that he went into partnership with J. Ed. Mitchell, remaining in this business for two years, until 1907, under the name of Mitchell & Mitchell, and were well known and successful.

In 1907, J. E. Mitchell quit the fruit business and became a general contractor, specializing in roads and bridges, and he has handled road construction work in various sections on the state highways. Some of his contracts are: The Kings River state highway in Sierra County; the Sierra and Downieville road; the Humboldt and Trinity state road; Redwood Park road in Santa Cruz County; and one of the finest pieces of concrete work in the state, which was under his supervision, the Burrel bridge. In Fresno County alone he has executed over 2,300 contracts ranging from a 10-inch pipe to Lane's Bridge, the largest in the county. Among the more important contracts handled by Mr. Mitchell are the following: Lane's Bridge, over the San Joaquin; the rebuilding of the large concrete bridge east of Sanger over Kings River; the bridge north of Reedley; Centerville bridge; Burrel



Jap E. Mitchell

bridge, all three over the Kings River; and the rebuilding of the Herndon bridge over the San Joaquin. These are all in Fresno County. Some of the outside contracts are the concrete bridge over Eel River; one over Mad River in Humboldt County; and the bridge over the South Fork of the Eel in Trinity.

It must not be inferred that Mr. Mitchell has devoted his time to business affairs alone, for he has done his share of public service and as a deputy county clerk became well known throughout the county; he also served as a deputy sheriff and in other ways has been of service to his fellow citizens. There has been no movement put forward to bring Fresno County before the world at large but what he has always been found in the van.

The marriage of J. E. Mitchell with Miss Bessie Rutherford was celebrated December 10, 1903, and they have two children, Dwight Elbert and Elva Lenona, to brighten their home circle, and who with their parents enjoy the esteem of a wide circle of friends. Mr. Mitchell is a member of the Woodmen of the World; the Fraternal Order of Eagles; the B. P. O. Elks; the Commercial Club; and the Chamber of Commerce. He is a Republican in national affairs but is non-partisan in local issues, always seeking what is best for the majority. Their home at 206 Strother Avenue, Kearney Boulevard Heights, built on modern lines, is ever open with that true hospitality known only to the Californians.

JOHN W. GEARHART.—In the arduous yet interesting field of court reporting, we find John W. Gearhart, who was born in Fairmount, Luzerne County, Pa., June 1, 1852, son of Wesley R. and Sarah (Millard) Gearhart. His father, a graduate of Girard Medical College, Philadelphia, Pa., took up the practice of his profession in Winnebago, Ill., in the Rock River Valley, in 1854. Dr. and Mrs. Gearhart came to Fresno, Cal., in 1886, and there resided until the time of the death of Dr. Gearhart in 1889. Mrs. Gearhart thereafter lived in Pacific Grove until her decease, in 1906, her remains being interred with those of her husband and son Charles in the Masonic Cemetery, Fresno.

The subject of this sketch received his education in the public schools of Illinois. After acquiring some proficiency as a shorthand writer, Mr. Gearhart, in 1872, obtained a position as secretary of Allan Pinkerton (Chief of the United States Secret Service during the Civil War), in the Chicago offices of Pinkerton's National Detective Agency, later being transferred to the New York office and still later to the Philadelphia office of the agency.

In 1873 Mr. Gearhart returned to Chicago and accepted a position as stenographer in the law offices of Messrs. Ayer, Beckwith & Kales. Coming to California in the winter of 1874-75 he entered the employ of Dun's Commercial Agency, and in the latter part of 1875 commenced his life work as a court reporter with the firm of Osbourne & Jones, official court reporters, San Francisco. In the fall of 1875, Mr. Gearhart was appointed official reporter of the District Court of the Third Judicial District of California by Hon. James B. Campbell, then judge of said court, thereafter receiving appointments as official reporter of the county courts of Tulare, Fresno, Merced and Mariposa Counties, comprised in the Third Judicial District, later being appointed reporter of the Kern County Superior Court, after the adoption of the New Constitution of California, as well as of the Superior Courts of the four counties of Tulare, Fresno, Merced and Mariposa.

With the increase of population, wealth and, consequently of litigation in the San Joaquin Valley, Mr. Gearhart perforce relinquished the practice of his profession in one county after another, retaining his position of reporter of the Superior Court of Fresno County. His duties of later years as official reporter of Department No. 1, under appointments by Judges Campbell, Harris, Webb, Carter and Austin, together with the reporting of trials in the District Court of the Southern District of California, Northern Division, as Special Examiner for the United States Circuit and District Courts, and mis-

cellaneous business in the line of his profession, have constantly kept him busy.

Among the more notable civil cases reported by Mr. Gearhart were those of Carr & Haggin vs. Miller & Lux, in the Superior Court of Kern County, involving riparian rights with reference to properties of great value, and Jeremiah Clark et al vs. Poly, Heilbron & Co., regarding title to the Rancho Laguna de Tache, comprising some 30,000 acres of land along Kings River, the litigants in these cases being represented by many of California's then leading lawyers—Hall McAllister, Judge John Garber, R. E. Houghton, Judge Flournoy, Judge Denson, Hon. P. D. Wigginton and others, the trial of each case covering a period of about three months. As these trials occurred before the introduction of the use of the phonograph or dictaphone and the reporter was required to furnish daily to counsel for plaintiffs and defendants transcripts of his notes of the testimony, the amount of labor required of one reporter and one typewriter operator may be easily understood.

Trials of criminal cases of more than ordinary interest reported by Mr. Gearhart include those of *The People vs. Chris Evans*, noted train robber, *People vs. Heath and Polley*, for the murder of Louis B. McWhirter and that of the *People vs. W. A. Sanders*, for forgery, the disappearance of one Wm. Wooton—believed to have been murdered and his remains disposed of—being involved, the first and second trials being presided over by Judges J. R. Webb and Carrol Cook, respectively in the Superior Court of Fresno County.

On July 17, 1882, Mr. Gearhart was married to Miss Mary E. Johnson, of Visalia. Fresno has been their home for the thirty-five years last past. In the same city now reside all of their children—Clara L. (now Mrs. Wm. J. Cleary), James W. (also a court reporter), and Bertrand W., a member of the legal profession, at present deputy district attorney of Fresno County.

E. M. HANSEN.—An early settler who, having made a success of one venture, that of the butchering and retail meat business, has now succeeded in another field, viticulture and dairying, is E. M. Hansen, who has improved a fine place and, with the assistance of his good wife, has come to enjoy prosperity and to command a comfortable competency. He first came to California in 1881 and within a year had fortunately found his way to Fresno County.

He was born in Lykonkloster, Slesvig, Denmark, on August 4, 1854, the son of Hans Hansen, a farmer who owned his own place, had an active and honorable part in the War of 1848-50, and who died in 1915, aged over ninety years. He had married Christene Jaocumsen, who died there over eighty-four years of age, passing away in 1912. There were seven children in the family, and five are living: Mat is in Brooklyn, N. Y.; E. M. is the subject of our review; Andrew is in West Park, Fresno County; Christen resides in Slesvig; and Mathilda lives in Nebraska.

E. M. was brought up on the old homestead, and attended the local public schools, assisting on the farm until he was nineteen or over. On account of the military oppression, he determined to come to the United States; and in 1874 he left Hamburg for New York. He located at Perth Amboy, and as an apprentice learned the butcher's trade, continuing there until December, 1880, when he came west to San Francisco, and for a while he drove on the old horse-car line in the Bay metropolis. On February 21, 1881, he came to Fresno and here found employment as a butcher. For a time he was engaged in business for himself, and ran a wagon through the country east of Fresno, to Red Banks and vicinity. When he sold out, he ran a wagon west of the town, until 1897, meantime preparing for his real future by buying twenty acres in Fresno Colony. At the end of a year, he sold out and bought another twenty which he improved to alfalfa and after two years also sold.

In 1891, Mr. Hansen bought his present place, consisting of forty acres on Jensen Avenue, ten miles west of Fresno. It was raw land, but he leveled and checked it and set it out as a vineyard; and there he has continued ever since. He set out Thompson seedless grapes, but later took up the vines and devoted the land to alfalfa. For the last eight years he has run a dairy there. He built a residence, barns, windmill and installed a gas-engine; and he became a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association. He also joined in every raisin association movement, and is a member and a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company.

At Fresno, Mr. Hansen was married to Miss Christene Madsen, born at Varde, Jylland, Denmark, by whom he has had five children, three of whom grew to maturity: Harry is the butcher at Kearney Park; Martha is at home, and so is Amy. The family attends the Lutheran Church, and they adhere to the principles of the Republican party. Mr. Hansen is a member of the Danish Brotherhood of Fresno, and has been president of that excellent organization. In 1906 he made a trip to New Jersey and New York, to visit old associations, and returned better satisfied than ever with California, and more than ever confident as to its future.

MRS. MALISSA CLAYTOR.—A hard-working, sensible woman who has borne the burden and heat of the day, often under disappointing and at times distressing circumstances, is Mrs. Malissa Claytor, widow of the late Thomas Claytor who, in 1906, built their beautiful farmhouse two miles east and one-fourth of a mile south of Selma. He was born in Ray County, Mo., in 1857, and grew up at Hardin, in the same county. On December 5, 1879, he was married in Caldwell County to Miss Malissa Myers, a native of that county, who grew up there. She is a daughter of G. W. and Lottie (Myers) Myers, who sent her to the public schools of her locality. When eighteen, she was married. For a while they farmed rented lands in Missouri, and then, in 1883, they came to California, settling four miles west of Selma, where he worked for two years on the A. A. Webber ranch. Then they bought a place three miles west of Selma, where they lived for five years. A fire, however, destroyed their house, household goods and wheat crop; and since they had no insurance, they sustained heavy loss. In 1906 they bought the present place, and here they have had two fires, but more fortunately they carried some insurance.

For fourteen years Mrs. Myers conducted a millinery shop on the ranch, her display room being in her residence, and she and her husband prospered until they owned a well-improved ranch of forty acres, all of which is now planted, sixteen and a half acres being devoted to peaches, six and a half to apricots, five acres to Thompson seedless, eight to muscats, and one acre to young Thompson vines. The balance was devoted to the house-plot, drying yards and other customary features. Then Mr. Claytor died on July 23, 1915, mourned by many. Four children were born to them, three now living. The first-born died in infancy; Ella is the wife of J. E. Hedges, and resides on their ranch near Selma, with their two children, H. Leon and Ray; Grover is a rancher who owns twenty acres two miles north of here, and who married Bessie Todd of Selma, and they have four children—Dorris, Roxy, Grover E. and Amelia; Thomas, the youngest, is an invalid at home.

Mrs. Claytor, who is a member of the Peach Growers Association and a Democrat in matters of national politics, is about to be handsomely rewarded for long, persistent work, as the 1919 crop she has raised will undoubtedly pay off the last of the mortgages on her property, and then she will have clear title to house and land worth from thirty-five to forty thousand dollars. She is consistent in her life and character, likes to see others prosper and the general welfare advance, and with her family is highly respected.

GEORGE P. MORAN.—Prominent among the progressive, influential and highly-respected ranchers who have helped to make Riverside Colony what it is, is George P. Moran, a native of San Francisco, where he was born in 1874. Growing up in that city, he attended the public schools there, and when he pushed out into the world, he became a clerk in the San Francisco Post Office. Later, he was engaged in the grocery business, so that his combined experience in the bay metropolis was of such a nature as to prepare him well for his later ventures.

In 1912 Mr. Moran removed to Fresno County, and here he embarked in ranching. He took charge of a farm, settled at an early date by M. E. Stanton and still the property of Mrs. Moran, who was Miss Elizabeth Stanton before her marriage. Mr. Stanton had long been a pioneer at Visalia, being in the boot and shoe business in Tulare County, but in 1885 he removed to Fresno County. He married Miss Margaret McCarty, and by her had two children—Elizabeth, already referred to, and Richard Stanton. The Moran ranch consists of sixty acres in the Riverside Colony and a quarter section in the River Bend Colony, all of which is set out to vines and fruit trees. Mr. Stanton died in December, 1902, his devoted wife having died in August of the same year. He was mourned as a man of that sterling character which always makes for the best in citizenship.

Mr. Moran and Miss Stanton were united in matrimony in 1907, and their union has been blessed with the birth of three children—George, Joyce and Ruth. Mrs. Moran is an attractive hostess and Mr. Moran is an exceedingly painstaking and accurate rancher, who keeps well abreast of the times, follows only the most scientific methods, and operates in the most up-to-date manner.

WILLIAM WERTZ.—A successful dealer in hardware and farming implements, whose previous experience as a practical farmer assists him every day to understand the problems of the agriculturist and to forestall his wants, is William Wertz, a native of Streator, Ill., and the son of John Wertz, a farmer, for a while in Livingston County, that state, who eventually returned to Streator and now resides there. His mother was Jane Reed before her marriage, and she was a native of Illinois. She is still living, the mother of four children.

Born the second eldest of the family, on January 9, 1878, William was fortunately a "home boy," and was reared at Streator, where he attended the public schools. Later, having finished with his books, he began to work on the farm and then, desiring a handiwork that would be some guarantee for the future, he learned the plumbing trade, apprenticing himself to a Streator plumber. Once more he returned to the farm, this time in Livingston County; and when he had finished there, he was probably as well-informed a farmer, for his years and length of practical experience, as any man in the Middle West.

Having had his attention, fortunately, attracted to California and its wonderful resources, and especially to the many advantages Fresno County has to offer, Mr. Wertz in 1913 came to Clovis and located here, buying a forty-acre vineyard where, for a couple of years, he engaged in the science of viticulture. Then he sold out and bought a twenty-seven-acre vineyard which he ran for a year, finally disposing of that.

Prior to selling out the second time, Mr. Wertz had purchased the business of Hawkins Brothers, the hardware dealers, and now he embarked in that line. He not only bought their extensive stock of hardware and agricultural implements, pumping plants, steel, tanks and plumbing, but also the building they had occupied; and he prepared for a larger business along the same lines. Now he installs, among other outfits, pumping plants, and sells the Waterloo Boy engine; he carries a full line of P. & O. implements and belting, etc., and his establishment on Front Street makes an excellent display.



J H Good

While in Illinois, Mr. Wertz was married to Miss Gertrude Clark, a native of Mr. Wertz's birthplace; and their union has resulted in two promising children—Gladys and Blanche. The family attend the Methodist Church; but far beyond the circles of that live religious organization Mr. and Mrs. Wertz are known for their loyal citizenship, their qualities as friends, their capacity as neighbors. Clovis has no more successful business man, and it has no more devoted couple.

JAMES HENRY GOOD.—The bright prospects held forth by the fertile valleys of California have allured many an ambitious young man to the "land of sunshine and flowers." Prominent among these valleys is that of the great San Joaquin, unexcelled for salubrity of climate, beauty of situation and fertility of soil. About the center of this valley lies the county of Fresno.

Among the enterprising young men who came to Fresno County while the country was new, is James Henry Good, who came from his native state of West Virginia, where he was born at Hamlin, Lincoln County, on December 3, 1873. His father, Samuel Henry Good, was a son of the "Old Dominion," born in Franklin County, and served at the age of sixteen as volunteer in the Southern army during the trying days of our great civil conflict. Upon returning to his home at the close of the war, he married one of the fair daughters of that state, Adeline M. Davis, removing after his marriage to Lincoln County, W. Va., where he followed the occupation of farming until he removed to Lexington, Dawson County, Nebr., where he resided until his death. Adeline Davis Good, who died in April, 1916, was the mother of seven children, of whom our subject was the third child.

James Henry Good attended the Simon Branch log schoolhouse in Lincoln County until sixteen years of age, then removing to Nebraska, where he worked on his father's farm until 1894, when he came to the Pacific Coast, arriving in Fresno County October 10th. He was employed in the Tarpey vineyard for eighteen months, afterwards settling east of Clovis in the employ of others for one year. He then leased 640 acres of land from J. W. Potter, and followed ranching.

On October 15, 1898, Mr. Good was united in marriage with Rachael Kuhn, a native of Dearborn County, Ind., a daughter of Michael and Mary (Berg) Kuhn. Before her marriage, Mrs. Good, with her parents, removed to Missouri, where her father died; her mother is still living. Rachael Kuhn was educated in the schools of Queen City, Schuyler County, Mo. She came to Fresno, in 1893, where she met and married Mr. Good. Two children have blessed their union: Glen J., who graduated at the Clovis High School in 1918; and Velma May, attending Clovis High School, class of 1920.

After his marriage Mr. Good continued grain-farming on the Potter ranch, at first harvesting with a twelve-horse team by headers, and later with a combined harvester drawn by thirty-two head of horses and mules. Seeing the great opportunity for intensive farming, in the fall of 1900 he purchased twenty acres of land, the nucleus of the present home place, setting part of it to peaches and raisin grapes, and the remainder in alfalfa. In 1901 he purchased another twenty acres, planting it to raisin grapes and alfalfa, working in addition other people's land. In 1903 he purchased another twenty acres, improving this also. In 1907 he added to his acreage forty acres of partly improved land, altogether 100 acres. Seventy acres of this land is set to vineyard, of muscat, sultanas and Thompson seedless; twenty acres to orchard, and ten acres in alfalfa.

In 1904, Mr. Good built his present commodious and modern residence, where he resides with his family. He was one of the original stockholders of the Clovis Farmers' Union, and one of the directors. This company built a raisin-packing plant and operated it until they sold to the California Associated Raisin Company, of which he is a stockholder and member. He is also a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc. For a number of years he was Council Commander of Pine Burr Camp, Woodmen of the World, at

Clovis, and his wife is an active member of the Neighbors of Woodcraft. Mr. Good is a member and trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, and is ex-president of its board of stewards, and has been president of the Epworth League, and is teacher of the young people's class. Always interested in having good schools, he has served acceptably as trustee of Jefferson School District and has been clerk of the board.

Mr. Good made his first trip back to Nebraska to visit his mother and relatives, in 1900, and in 1904, with his family, he went back to Missouri and then went on to his old West Virginia home. Again, in 1908, he made a trip to his old home in West Virginia, and in 1919, with his family, he made an extended trip east, visiting Nebraska, Missouri, and West Virginia, and also the interesting points in various eastern cities.

Mr. Good has seen Fresno County develop to its present position of importance in the commonwealth, and in his untiring efforts to assist in that development he has been instrumental in bringing many new settlers to the county.

OLNEY WHITESIDE.—Great honor is due the courageous pioneers of the Golden State, and in view of the great hardships they experienced, the perils they braved and their untiring efforts to blaze a path for a later civilization, their names should be perpetuated in such a manner that their labors, in the days of trial, may remain an inspiration and encouragement to the toilers of today.

Olney Whiteside is a pioneer of California and one of the few remaining survivors of those early days, having arrived here on January 1, 1856. He was born in Jackson County, Mo., while his parents were enroute from Illinois to Iowa, June 23, 1838, a son of Alexander Whiteside, a native of Toronto, Canada, who came to the United States when nineteen years of age and made his home for a while in New Hampshire with a Mr. Sherman, whose daughter, Electa, afterwards became his wife. Grandfather Whiteside was born in Ireland, while the Shermans were descendants of an old American family. Alexander and Electa Whiteside, the parents of our subject died in Los Angeles, the former at seventy-two, and the latter at seventy years of age.

Young Whiteside was brought up and attended school at Kainesville, Iowa, where his father and uncle followed the occupation of well digging, and the father was also engaged in teaming and lumbering, there being no railroads in Iowa at that time.

In 1852 the Whiteside family crossed the plains to Salt Lake City, Utah, and Olney drove one of the ox teams. That fall the father returned to Kainesville, purchased a threshing machine and in the spring of 1853 returned to Salt Lake, hauling the machine all the way across the plains. It was one of the first threshing machines used in the vicinity of Salt Lake City. At that time money was very scarce and Mr. Whiteside was obliged to accept wheat as pay for his threshing outfit, but this he disposed of to the emigrants passing through Salt Lake City.

Olney Whiteside remained in Salt Lake City until the fall of 1855, when he, and an Indian agent named Irvin, drove 600 head of cattle to Montana and during their trip were among the Flathead Indians who were at war with the Crows and Blackfeet. The Indians secured the cattle after which young Whiteside, then only a boy of seventeen, sensed danger and showed his remarkably sound judgment by returning at once to Salt Lake City, a distance of 300 miles, traveling alone on horseback and every night stopping with Indians. He arrived home in safety, but it is reported that Mr. Irvin, together with eight white men that remained, were all murdered.

Upon arriving home he found his father ready to make a trip to California, so he joined the party and they landed in San Bernardino, going on to San Gabriel Mission where the father leased the Santa Anita Ranch, and ran a dairy (this is the same ranch that became the property of E. J. "Lucky"

Baldwin). Mr. Whiteside says that they could have bought the place for twenty-five cents per acre, but they had come to California to dig gold and were not content with operating a dairy, so during the summer they sold the lease and dairy and started for Sacramento. On July 4, 1856, they were at Stockton, where they witnessed a bullfight. During the fall of 1857 Olney Whiteside owned sixteen head of oxen and lived in Yuba County and ran an ox team freighting outfit from Sacramento to Grass Valley, Nevada County; and he has the distinction of having hauled material for the first quartz mill to Virginia City, Nev., the mill is known as the "Old Spanish Mill." To transport it required thirteen wagons, with four yoke of oxen to each, the route being through the old Geiger Canyon. After the quartz mill was delivered to Virginia City, the party loaded 8,000 feet of lumber, which they hauled to Fort Churchill, Nev. In the fall of 1864, Olney's father and uncle went over Silver Mountains, into Alpine County, Cal. They bought a quartz mill at Nevada City, which was torn down and hauled by Olney Whiteside over to Alpine County during the winter of 1863-64, and it required three teams of eight mules each and took several trips. This enterprise proved a failure and the father and uncle lost all they invested, in addition to which Olney lost \$20,000 that he had put into the project. Undaunted by failure he returned to Yuba County, where he had a ranch of 400 acres which he farmed in partnership with a cousin.

On September 15, 1869, Olney Whiteside was united in marriage with Miss Ellen Bradshaw, a native of Illinois, who was a babe in arms when her parents brought her across the plains to Oregon and in that state she was reared to young womanhood. Her father was the Rev. Charles Bradshaw, a minister of the Christian Church in Oregon, and later of California, the family having moved from Oregon to Sutter County. Mr. and Mrs. Bradshaw are buried in Rosedale Cemetery, Los Angeles. Soon after marriage Mr. Whiteside sold his ranch in Yuba County and moved to Satcoy Springs, Ventura County, then a part of Santa Barbara County, and here he leased and operated a ranch of 320 acres. Later he farmed the Briggs Orchard place for several years. On account of his wife's failing health he removed to the Conejo Ranch, on the county line between Ventura and Los Angeles Counties, and purchased 4,000 acres, later selling 1,000 acres to Mrs. Riley. Mr. Whiteside remained here until 1887, when he rented his ranch and moved to Los Angeles, so as to provide better educational advantages for his children. He sold his 3,000-acre ranch to his oldest son for \$20,000. During the three years that Mr. Whiteside lived in Los Angeles he helped grade some of the streets. After leaving the City of the Angels he was superintendent of the construction of the Turlock Irrigation Ditch, but while living there contracted malaria and it was thought he could not live. In 1890 he sent his teams over to Lemoore, and returned to Los Angeles. The sunshine and balmy air soon restored his lost health, then he returned to Lemoore and from there moved over the line into what was then Fresno County and rented 1,200 acres, but on account of a flood, that season, was unsuccessful in his undertaking and subsequently moved to the Summit Lake district where he broke 640 acres of land and planted it to wheat, but again he was destined to disappointment for the levee broke and his crop was washed away. Renting a combined harvester, although he had never seen one, he contracted to harvest 2,000 acres of grain, and his undertaking proved very successful. At the same time he rented 1,400 acres of the Boll & Hague ranch. Later Mr. Whiteside became superintendent of the Jeff James ranch of 73,000 acres. At the same time (1902) he purchased his present ranch consisting of 640 acres located four miles southeast of Helm, Fresno County.

Mr. and Mrs. Whiteside are the parents of nine children: Eva, is the wife of Dr. W. C. Yates, of Coalinga; Alexander Lyman, is a rancher in Ventura County; Almond Elijah, married Miss Mattie Goff, they reside in Los Angeles; Robert Olney, lives at Helm and farms all of his father's land and

rents other acreage; Lena, is the wife of Samuel B. Williams, a rancher at Helm; Charles O., married Miss Campbell and they reside at Orland, Glenn County; Melvina, died in 1890, at Los Angeles, aged eight years; John B. married Miss Williams and they live in Glenn County; Edward Sherman, who passed away on October 18, 1918, was manager of his father's place. Mr. Whiteside, now past eighty years of age, is vigorous and active, is a man of splendid character, a leader in matters pertaining to the upbuilding of the best interests of the county and his community. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

E. B. SWEZEY.—A rancher who has had a valuable experience both in developing his own properties and in assisting other ranchers to develop theirs, and who, retired and able to place his savings at the disposition of those who need them, is still helping others to succeed, is E. B. Swezey, who resides at 2946 Grant Avenue in Fresno, to which comfortable headquarters he withdrew, after years of strenuous exertion, in July, 1919. He was born on Long Island, at Peconic, near Greenport, in the eastern county of Suffolk, the son of Samuel Swezey, a native of Middle Island, the same county, and the grandson of the Rev. Azel Swezey, a Presbyterian minister, who farmed 400 acres of land on Long Island. Samuel Swezey married Miss Mary Maria Haynes, who died when our subject was only three years old; she was the daughter of an early settler on the Island, and a member of a family that originally came from England.

Through his second marriage he had one child that grew up, Samuel C. Swezey, still single and a farmer on Long Island. Samuel Swezey, Sr., met with an accident to his hand that caused blood poisoning, and he died at his home in his sixtieth year.

Edwin Beecher—for that is the full name of this only offspring from the first union—was born at Peconic, L. I., on October 11, 1853, and attended the public school of his district, where he received that thorough instruction which proved such a foundation for him in later life. He grew up on his father's farm, and when he left home he worked out by the month for a neighbor, resuming work for monthly wages from his father when he was twenty. Meanwhile, between his eighteenth and twentieth years, he had clerked in a general merchandise store at Peconic. He continued to work for a time, then decided to follow Horace Greeley's advice and "Go West." He first located at Edgar, Clay County, Nebr., where he was married to Miss Cora E. Cline, a native of Rochester, N. Y., and the daughter of William B. and Louisa (Garrett) Cline; and in Nebraska he remained for four years. In 1884 with his wife and two babies he came out to the Coast and directed his course to Selma, where Mrs. Swezey had two uncles named Cline, who were prosperous wheat-growers, and Mr. Swezey worked on farms. He planted the Tremper vineyard of 160 acres set out to muscats, four and a half miles east of Selma, known at that time as the Cline Place, and that was one of the first large vineyards created east of Selma. For four years, too, he ran that vineyard, and then he took the vineyard of William T. Sesnon and managed the eighty acres for twenty-two years.

During part of this time he engaged extensively in raising wheat, operating a ranch of 1,500 acres now known as the Great Western Vineyard five miles north of Reedley; and although he sold wheat as low as seventy-four cents per cwt., he paid his debts on the basis of 100 cents on the dollar. He did not clear any profit, however, on wheat; so he bought ninety acres directly across the road north of the Sesnon place, and planted that to trees, vines and alfalfa. He also bought and improved other lands and sold them.

From 1904 to 1906 Mr. Swezey managed 8,000 acres of a ranch of 16,000 acres in Monterey County, inherited by Mr. Sesnon and badly run down; and so well did he handle the estate that he brought it up again to a high state of cultivation. He conducted general farming and raised thoroughbred



W. E. Tait



Anna A. Pettit

Hereford and Durham cattle, producing the first herd of thoroughbred Herefords in that part of the county.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Sweezy's lives. H. C. Sweezy married Amy Sane, a rancher living east of Selma; F. E. Sweezy is also a rancher, and resides on and operates the Sesnon Vineyard, assisted by his wife, who was Ethel Johnson of Selma. Eva Alberta, called Birdie, is the wife of Alvin King, a rancher who lives southeast of Selma. Shirley married Claude Grimes, a rancher northeast of Selma; and resides in that town. Mr. Sweezy owns some fine residential property at Long Beach; belongs to the Woodmen of the World, and is a Republican.

In 1916, soon after he bought his present place, Mr. and Mrs. Sweezy took an auto trip to the Empire State and his old home on Long Island. He also visited Florida, and on his wide tour from San Francisco to New York, and Canada to Mexico, he motored through thirty states. None the less, these loyal people were glad to get back to the state of their adoption.

HON. MELVIN PETTIT.—A thoroughly responsible and well-known citizen of Fresno County who has worked unceasingly for every interest that would add to the upbuilding power of the community in which he lives, as well as the county at large, and who has been able to contribute some share to the sum-total of forces making for the good, is the Hon. Melvin Pettit, a Canadian by birth, he having been born in the great Dominion on August 13, 1859. He is the son of S. T. and Abigail (DeWitt) Pettit, and one of a family of ten children. All of these grew to maturity, and three are living in Fresno County.

Reared and educated in the environment of his own country, Mr. Pettit came from Canada to Michigan, where he engaged in the lumber business for five years, removing after that to California. In 1899 he located at Fowler, and at once bought twenty acres; and being more than pleased with his investment, he added another twenty and finally purchased until he owned 120 acres. He was proud enough of what he had, but like a wide-awake settler of the developing kind, he was ready to consider something better.

Seeing a good chance to become two-thirds owner, with W. D. Wilson, on a ranch containing 270 acres near Parlier, he sold his Fowler property in 1912, and moved to his new home. In the fall of 1918, he bought Mr. Wilson's interest in the property mentioned. Now his product is raisins, peaches, and Thompson grapes; and such is his splendid success, that he has obtained as high as two and a quarter tons to the acre. This success is doubtless due in part to the fact that Mr. Pettit is a scientific and up-to-date farmer, an extensive reader, and one who endeavors to keep abreast of the times.

But Mr. Pettit does not live to succeed alone as an horticulturist. He has a healthy interest in practical religion, and is a member of the executive board of Fresno County Young Men's Christian Association, on which he has served for a number of years. He also has a keen interest in the popular education, and has served with a definite purpose on the school board. He is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has been its Sunday school superintendent, besides holding other offices of trust and responsibility.

Mr. Pettit has also taken an active part in civic affairs and political life. In 1916 he was nominated by the Progressives, and supported by the Democrats and Prohibitionists as a candidate for the State Assembly, and was elected by a satisfactory majority. In 1918 he was reelected without opposition. He had the honor of casting his vote, at the forty-third session, for national prohibition. During his two terms in the legislature Mr. Pettit served as a member of the Educational Committee; the last session he was chairman of the Normal School Committee. It was during this session that he introduced a bill for the protection of vineyards by stopping the spread of Phylloxera; the bill passed and was signed by the governor and is of especial interest to vineyardists throughout the entire state.

During the Centennial year, Mr. Pettit was married to Miss Anna A., daughter of W. W. and Caroline A. (Cross) Kenny, by whom he has had several children who have grown to eventful careers. A daughter, Caroline W., married Rev. James F. Nelson, a minister of the Presbyterian faith; A. Almeda, is the wife of Fred Aden, a missionary in Argentina; Hermon D., graduated from Occidental College at Los Angeles, studied for the ministry and just as he had finished his course he entered the service of the United States Government during the World War, trained a month at Camp Kearney, then was ordered overseas with the Fortieth Division, reaching the front when the armistice was signed and was one of the fortunate boys to be selected for a college training and is now attending New College in London, still in the service of his country; Ruth O., graduated in June, 1919, from Occidental College, having completed a teacher's course; Clare N., intends to devote himself to scientific farming.

Mrs. Pettit is by no means behind her husband in a life of usefulness and responsibility. For eight years she has been connected with the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and has done her share to advance the splendid work of that notable organization. Now she is serving as President of the local Union. She is also President of the County W. C. T. U. and is the First Vice-President of the W. C. T. U. of Northern California. A pleasing and convincing speaker, she is well-known for her fidelity to the cause of temperance, the total abolition of the traffic in alcohol and tobacco.

ALBERT SIDNEY JOHNSTON SHANNON.—Named in honor of the Civil War general, Sidney J. Shannon is a true type of the manhood of Fresno County, where he is now ably holding the office of Deputy United States Marshal in and for the northern division of the southern district of the State of California, his office being located on the second floor of the Post Office Building in Fresno, while he and his family are nicely domiciled at his residence at 951 Devisadero Street.

He was born at Millerton, Fresno County, on August 27, 1868, and is the third child and second son of the late Jefferson M. and Rebecca Margaret (Baley) Shannon, and a grandson of the late Gillum Baley. He was six years old, when with his parents, he came to the new town of Fresno, then in its infancy. He was one of the first generation of Fresno boys and girls to attend the public schools of Fresno, the schoolhouse being then located at the corner of L and Tulare Streets. In 1881, while a mere lad, he began working for Miller & Lux as chore-boy, doing general all-around work—clerked in their store, rode the range, etc., until after his parents had moved to Alameda where he joined them in July, 1888. He there entered and took a commercial course at a branch of Heald's Business College, located at Oakland.

January 1, 1889, he went to work for the Pacific Improvement Company, entering their general offices in San Francisco. He began as office-boy and ended as chief accountant and paymaster, serving continuously until April 30, 1901, when he went back to work for Miller & Lux as their general auditor. He became well and personally acquainted with the late Henry Miller, who appointed him to take charge of the land department for his great firm, and for many years Mr. Shannon had charge of the buying and selling of lands, particularly the colonization and upbuilding of the following Miller & Lux colonies: Dos Palos; Los Banos; Volta; Gustine; Madera; Mendota; Firebaugh and Newman, looking after all the townsite and colonization projects of the corporation from Mendota in Fresno County to Newman in Stanislaus County. On April 15, 1910, he retired to private life in Fresno. On March 12, 1914, he was appointed Deputy United States Marshal; he is also deputy sheriff of Fresno County.

The epidemic of fire which threatened to destroy Fresno City in the summer of 1918 was stopped by the vigilant and vigorous efforts of Mr.



Gay Stockton

Shannon, who dealt very promptly and severely with the I. W. W. element, and the city was saved. As a reward for his strenuous efforts of the past years of application to business, Mr. Shannon has acquired considerable property. He is furthermore interested with his brothers Scott A., and L. S. as a one-third owner of the Shannon Estate, which owns a large and very valuable vineyard, producing malagas and emperors, choice varieties of table-grapes, in the production and shipping of which the Shannon brothers are experts and their product is eagerly sought in the eastern markets and the markets of the Middle West, where the "Shannon Estate" brand of table grapes are at a premium.

They also own and operate the celebrated Shannon Estate stock ranch at Wheatville, Fresno County. The latter property has been acquired by the Shannon brothers since their father's death.

An able officer and an excellent business man, Mr. Shannon is well-known throughout California. He is particularly well-known among the Native Sons of the Golden West, in which order he is the oldest member in good standing in the state, having been a member for thirty-two years. He is now a member of Fresno Parlor, No. 25, and is past president of Halcyon Parlor at Alameda. He is also an oldtime and valued member of the Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. Elks; he is a Thirty-second Degree Scottish Rite Mason, a Knight Templar, both at Fresno, and is a life member of Islam Temple at San Francisco.

Mr. Shannon was married to Miss Johanna M. Brock, an Alameda girl, and a daughter of C. C. and Johanna M. (Ankerson) Brock of Alameda. C. C. Brock was a retired ship-master and well-known at the Bay. Mr. and Mrs. Shannon have one daughter, Marie Margaret Shannon, who was married September 4, 1919, to Merrill Ostrom, of Fresno.

The Shannon home continues to be the center of hospitality where the oldtime Fresno cordiality continues to greet young and old friends and strangers alike.

GUY STOCKTON.—Now one of the successful promoters of Fresno, Guy Stockton has gained that position through sheer enterprise and grit. The genealogy of the Stockton family can be traced back to Sir Richard Stockton, a Scotch-Irish nobleman, the progenitor from whom all of that name have descended. The Stocktons have played a prominent part in the history of California, the city of Stockton being named after one of the family.

Guy Stockton was born on January 26, 1880, in New Mexico, on the divide between that country and Colorado. His father died when he was but a small child, and his mother later married N. C. Caldwell, an attorney-at-law, and moved to Fresno in March, 1887. Guy attended the Fresno public schools as far as the seventh grade, when he called his education completed and started on his up-hill climb toward success in life. As early as seven years of age he began selling papers on the streets of Fresno, the Expositor and the Fresno Republican. Afterwards he worked at odd jobs to earn a living; in the Clovis Planing Mill for seventy-five cents per day; in a dairy for eight dollars per month and board; then as delivery boy and clerk for Melvin & Blaney; for H. Graff, the grocer; for Kutner-Goldstein Company; and in the fruit packing houses. His first real start up the ladder came when he entered the bee business. He went into Kern County and leased an apiary on shares, making \$500 the first season. With this as his capital, he came to Fresno and bought 100 hives of bees and ten acres of land, on Church Avenue, paying \$300 for his first real estate, which he still owns. Here he set to work with enthusiasm and produced, bought and sold honey on a large scale. He was a member, from its organization, of the local Beekeepers' Association, and at one time its secretary.

In 1907, Mr. Stockton started in the real estate business, his first sale being a forty-acre orange grove at Centerville for \$26,000, which opened his eyes and gave him an insight into what could be accomplished in that line.

He was the first man to develop north-end property. Buying five-acre lots, he subdivided these and sold them off in one-acre lots. He sold lots in Sunny-side Gardens, Baker Heights, Recreation Park Tract, and Boyd's Addition. In 1917, Mr. Stockton built sixteen houses in Fresno. They were sold before being completed, and the call for houses has continued as good since. One five-acre piece of land near the Normal School is full of houses erected by Mr. Stockton. He became exclusive agent, in September, 1917, for the Peerless Orchards Company, and has sold 400 acres of their properties in twenty-acre to forty-acre lots. The Peerless Fig Orchards are located near Clovis. The soil is especially adapted to the growing of Calimyrna figs, now one of the important industries of Fresno County. Mr. Stockton is the owner of an eighty-acre Calimyrna fig orchard in the Peerless tract; and he also owns eighty acres of unimproved land situated one mile east of Lane Station, and 160 acres on the west side, besides the ten acres where he originally had his bees. In addition to these real estate holdings, he owns valuable city property in Fresno. A man of unusual enterprise and vigorous energy, Mr. Stockton has been remarkably successful in his work as a promoter of real estate in the county. He specializes in suburban property, and can without exaggeration be called one of the real builders of Fresno. It is to such men as Mr. Stockton that the county owes its phenomenal growth of the past decade, and its rank as one of the most prosperous counties of California.

Mrs. Stockton was in maidenhood Florence Brocklebank, a native of Freehold, N. J. She is a cultured and refined woman, possessed of rare business acumen, and is actively assisting her husband in his enterprises. By his former marriage Mr. Stockton has two sons, Frank R. and Norman.

DR. WM. TILLMAN BURKS.—The notable career of Fresno's pioneer physician, Dr. Till Burks, as familiarly known, who for nearly forty years, had been identified with the life of Fresno City and County, came to a very sudden close October 21, 1918, after an illness of only one day from influenza. Dr. Burks was born at Shelbyville, Mo., October 7, 1858, and after completing his education in his native town, he entered Boone College, from which he was graduated. He came to Fresno in 1880 and joined his brother, Charles F. Burks, who had established the first drug store in Fresno, at the corner of Mariposa and I Streets where for some years Dr. Burks acted as a drug clerk. He completed his medical education at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of San Francisco from which he graduated in 1899 with the degree of M. D. and engaged in practice in Fresno. He married Miss Annie J. Williams of Fresno, sister of E. A. Williams, the well-known attorney of Fresno, and W. R. Williams, bank commissioner for the state of California. She was born in Redruth, England. By her he had one son, Dr. Floyd L. R. Burks, who has established a practice in Fresno. There was an estrangement which led to Mrs. Burks securing a divorce and she now resides in Sacramento. For a short period in his early manhood Dr. Burks served as ship's surgeon on a Pacific liner, and in this capacity visited the South Sea Islands on a cruise which extended over a year. While returning from this cruise in 1890, the ship touched at a Mexican port, and President Diaz of Mexico enlisted him to stamp out a plague of yellow fever that was then raging in Mexico. President Diaz gave Dr. Burks unlimited authority to overcome the scourge, and placed the army and navy at his disposal, to be utilized in making conditions more sanitary. It is stated that in three months he had the epidemic under control, and after a residence of ten months in Mexico he returned to California.

Dr. Burks resumed his practice in Fresno, and from that time on took an active interest in matters pertaining to public health, and was for some time president of the board of health and county health officer. While connected with the board of health, Dr. Burks is reported, by his friends, to have insisted on the observance of the public health laws without fear or favor.



R W Briscoe

In 1898, Dr. W. T. Burks' second marriage occurred, when he was united in marriage with Miss Bessie Croft, by whom he is survived.

As an evidence of the high esteem in which Dr. Burks was held by his Alma Mater, special exercises were held in honor of his memory at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at San Francisco, Dr. Charles Boxton, dean of the college, delivering the eulogy, the unit of student-soldiers in the Student Army Training Corps at the college stood at attention during the ceremonies.

Dr. Burks was a prominent Mason, a Knight Templar and Shriner and was also a charter member of Fresno Lodge of Odd Fellows.

R. W. BRISCOE.—There is no question but that success depends upon energy directed by intelligence, and courage undaunted by adversity. It is often that the plans of men are thwarted by circumstances over which they have little or no control, but if they could through industry and perseverance overcome the seemingly insurmountable difficulties, as R. W. Briscoe has done, success would come to them as it has come to him.

He was born in Lewis County, Mo., in 1863. His parents were natives of Kentucky, but were married in Missouri. The father was a farmer in Missouri, but in the fall of 1886 came to California with his family and settled west of Malaga, buying land of the Briggs Estate. The family at this time consisted of the father, Walter H., and mother, Mary E. (Wallace) Briscoe, and four children: James W., now an oil man in the Kern River field; Robert W.; Eliza, unmarried, a milliner in Porterville; and Gertrude, now Mrs. Melvin Stone. When they came to California the father became a fruit-grower and soon interested himself in the oil business, and owned wells in Kern County. He died eight years ago at the age of seventy-three years. The mother is living at Bakersfield, and is in good health at the age of seventy-nine.

R. W. Briscoe grew up on a farm in Lewis County, Mo., and attended the common schools and a graded private academy at Gilead, Mo. He came with his father's family to California in 1886. He followed farming and cattle feeding in Missouri for two years. On coming to California he bought forty acres of land from the Briggs Estate, one and a quarter miles southwest of Malaga, improving it and planting it to vines, fig and prune trees, and alfalfa.

On December 25, 1888, Mr. Briscoe went back east to Indiana and was married at Kokomo to Miss Elizabeth Caroline Mugg, daughter of James and Catharine (Ingels) Mugg, and who is a descendant of Daniel Boone, the great Kentuckian. She attended Franklin College, Franklin, Ind., one year, and two years at La Grange College, Mo., and it was in her college days that the acquaintance began that led to their union. Their honeymoon trip ended in Fresno County, Cal., where Mr. Briscoe resumed his farming and fruit-raising.

In the early nineties Mr. Briscoe was hard hit by the panic that landed so many men high and dry. He had purchased heavily in land, could not meet his payments and lost his possessions. Here is where grit and determination, backed up by the optimism of his wife, came to the rescue. He started again, and now he owns 1,100 acres in various localities. The home ranch consists of forty acres in muscat grapes; 120 acres near Skaggs Bridge, close to Kerman, in vineyard; 100 acres in the De Wolf District, in vineyard; also he has 730 acres near Sanger which he bought last year, which he uses as a stock ranch. In 1917 he had planted 100 acres in corn and built three silos, and he also had 100 acres in corn in 1918. To use up all this feed he has 240 head of cattle mostly feeders, 300 hogs, 20 mules and horses. He has sold 160 acres of land to his four oldest sons. In his time, Mr. Briscoe has planted over 500 acres to vineyards. In 1909 he raised twenty-three carloads of raisins, all his own, seven cars of which he shipped to Minneapolis. He is actively interested in the Raisin Growers Association.

In the cultivation of his vast holdings, Mr. Briscoe has used all of the latest improved farming implements, and brings to his aid three tractors, the Moline, the Case and the Fitch. He finds them invaluable in the cultivation of his vineyards as they do most excellent work, and as more than half of his land is in vineyards, it is necessary that he use such machinery as will do the work among the vines. He has resisted the temptation to go largely into the oil business, but did venture into that field a few years ago, and came out about even. Mr. Briscoe has kept aloof from politics, but is greatly interested in education, and has served on the election board for fifteen years. Having so many interests and they being somewhat scattered, Mr. Briscoe does business in Sanger, Fowler, Malaga, Fresno and Kerman, and as a consequence has a large acquaintanceship among the business men of these communities, and is highly esteemed by all of them.

Mr. Briscoe and W. R. Nutting, now of Fresno, got the first one hundred members to the Raisin Growers Exchange, and this was the foundation of the California Raisin Growers Association which has been of such benefit to raisin-growers in the San Joaquin Valley.

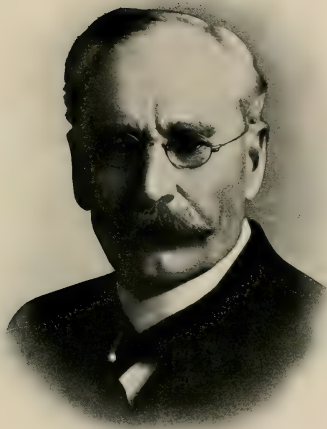
Mr. Briscoe is an untiring worker, and since the war began has been doing almost double duty, putting in at times as much as twenty hours a day. He is a man of excellent judgment and has great executive ability. He is kindly considerate, and public-spirited. His wife is an accomplished woman, a devoted mother, and a worthy helpmeet. Their home is surrounded with the things that make for high standards of living, and abounds with good books, farm periodicals and papers. Their family is most interesting, and consists of seven children: Ernest, married to Margaret Weimert, of Fresno, ranchers, living near the De Wolf school; Elmer, married to Delcie Barr, lives in the same vicinity; Walter married Gladys Wells, of the same vicinity; James, a soldier in France; Roy, now at home; Beryl, a senior in Fowler High School; and Fred, in the grammar school. All the older boys attended Heald's Business College at Fresno.

Most highly esteemed by all who know them, it was a happy day indeed, when in 1886, the Briscoe family cast their lot in Fresno County. Fresno and Fresno County will ever extend a hearty welcome to men of Mr. Briscoe's character.

HON. L. B. CARY.—That adverse conditions build up the strong has found convincing evidence in the life of L. B. Cary, whose dauntless spirit has surmounted many obstacles, and drawn helpful lessons from disheartening circumstances. He was born in Ohio, June 26, 1848, and at the age of five years he removed with his parents to Iowa. His father, Rev. J. R. Cary, was one of the pioneer ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and with his little family went through all the hardships incident to itinerant pioneering in that then far-western state.

In spite of poverty and privation, L. B. secured an academic and collegiate education, and later taught school for a few years and studied law. This he abandoned to take up newspaper work, in which he continued till coming to California, in 1902. In 1912, Mr. Cary was elected to the State Legislature as representative from the Fifty-second District in Fresno County. He distinguished himself as a champion of the agricultural interests of the state, and was notably instrumental in defeating the measure to bring farm labor under the eight-hour law, which would have proved of great injury to the agricultural, stock and fruit interests of the entire state.

In 1914, he was reelected and became noted as one of the leading champions in the movement against corrupt practices, and in securing legislation, and later was instrumental in securing the passage of an amendment to the constitution making it unlawful for a member of the legislature to hold any other office, trust or employment under the state during the term for which he was elected or for two years thereafter.



L. B. Gary.

During the session of 1915 a measure was passed having for its aim the abolition of party lines in California. A protest against this measure in the form of a referendum was carried to the people. Mr. Cary at once became one of the leading champions of the referendum, which was approved by the people with no uncertain majority. At a special session of 1916 the same measure was again forced through the legislature in spite of its repudiation by the people. Mr. Cary was made chairman of the legislative committee to carry a second referendum of the question to the people. He made a thorough organization of the state and after a brilliant and heated contest had the satisfaction of seeing the measure for the destruction of party lines in California again rejected by the people by an overwhelming majority, all but four counties in the state registering their protest against the destruction of party integrity.

As a platform orator and ready forum fighter, Mr. Cary has few superiors. He was never known to flinch from any contest in which he saw imperiled the cause of justice and right. Being a man of intense conviction, and having once decided as to the justness of the cause, he took his stand accordingly, without fear or favor, and regardless of who might be against him. Throughout his whole life he has had but one rule to guide his line of action—that of humanity, justice and right. Policy never entered into his calculation. For this reason he has made a name for himself in California which will live after him in connection with the history of the causes he has championed.

L. S. SHANNON.—Prominent among the interesting men of Fresno County whose acknowledged ability in their chosen fields makes it perfectly natural that they should be entrusted with important affairs and attain to a leadership meaning much to themselves and the community in which they reside, is L. S. Shannon, one of the owners and the superintendent of the famous Shannon Estate vineyard, a son of the late J. M. Shannon, long the well-known townsite agent of the Pacific Improvement Company, and grandson of Hon. Gillum Baley, a distinguished pioneer. Few men had greater foresight, or a higher sense of honor combined with aggressive, executive power, than J. M. Shannon, who was an acting director under A. N. Towne, president of the Pacific Improvement Company—the holding company for the Southern Pacific—and had such influence with Messrs. Stanford, Huntington, Crocker and Hopkins, that he secured the valuable donation of several blocks in Fresno for the site of the Court House and Court House Park. Judge Baley was the presiding judge when the county seat was removed from Millerton, and was widely esteemed as a man both of native ability and great brain power. Elsewhere in this work the lives of these historical personages are very properly presented in detail.

L. S. Shannon was born at Millerton, at that time the county seat of Fresno County, on Independence Day, 1871; but since he was only three and a half years old when his parents moved to Fresno, he has only faint recollections of his birth-place. His father, as the student of local history may recall, had served as under sheriff; and when the county seat was moved, in 1874, he brought his family with him to Fresno where our subject grew up and attended the public schools. When a mere lad, in the middle of his teens, he knew every business man and every prominent farmer in the city and the county; for he was entrusted with the delivery of telegrams, and this service for the Western Union Telegraph Company compelled him to move about with his eyes and ears wide open.

Having finished his course of study at the White School, where the late D. S. Snodgrass, afterward the banker at Selma, was his last teacher, young Shannon attended the Alameda high school, and then went to a business college at Oakland. About the same time he became chairman for a party of surveyors employed by the Pacific Improvement Company, and his ability coming to the attention of his superiors, he was taken into the company's

main office at San Francisco, where he remained for eight years. Next he accepted a responsible position with the Oakland Gas Light & Heat Company, and he was with that concern for six years.

On August 2, 1903, Mr. Shannon was married at Alameda to Miss Jane Lawrence, a native of Napa and the daughter of Charles and Ann (Willis) Lawrence, natives of Stockholm, Sweden, and England, respectively. Mr. Lawrence came to San Francisco as a cabin boy on a ship and in the Bay City became a ship carpenter. Mrs. Lawrence came to California an orphan, and was brought up by an older sister, with whom she remained until she married at San Francisco, in 1868. The other children in the Lawrence family were Catherine, Willis and Mary. Mrs. Shannon was reared at Alameda and was graduated from the Alameda high school, in the Class of '94; after which she attended the San Jose Normal School, graduating with the Class of '98; and teaching in the city schools of Alameda until she was married. Mr. and Mrs. Shannon have two children, Milam Jefferson and Lawrence Dudley.

Mr. Shannon's particular responsibility, in helping to manage the Shannon Estate owned by the several brothers, is for the most part the raising of table grapes and in this field he has been signally successful. Through many years of work and study he has become a specialist in both the growing and marketing of table grapes, and at present has ninety acres in malagas. Their products are packed and shipped from Miley, on the Santa Fe, and are marketed under the label of the "Shannon Estate Brand," and they command high prices, and find a ready market in New York City, Boston and Philadelphia. There are also eight acres in emperors, a table grape maturing very late in the season, and eighteen acres of muscats and sultanas. He has thirty-five acres in peaches, while the balance of the land is in alfalfa and pasture. The Shannon Estate Vineyard uses eight horses and employs five men all the year around, and as many as twenty-five men during the harvest season.

Although a Republican, and one with live ideas as to national political reform and progress, Mr. Shannon has loyally supported the administration in its difficult war work. For six years he served as trustee of the Walnut school district, while he lived in that section, and he has maintained a live interest in popular education ever since. He is a member of Halcyon Parlor of the Native Sons of the Golden West at Alameda, and he also belongs to Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. Elks.

DR. EUGENE W. LAISNE.—One of Fresno's most promising professional men, Dr. Eugene W. Laisne, was surely destined, by virtue of his natural ability, to be a genius among Optometrists. Unusually gifted as a mechanical manipulator and inventor, the human eye has been to him an open book. His intellectual perception also amounts to a real intuition, by which he is able to discover the actual visual condition of his patients, apart from their own statements regarding their eye troubles. Dr. Laisne obtained his training and experience in optical work in that great center of world life, New York City, and in several other leading cities of the East, where he studied and practiced under some of the most noted men in the profession, and became familiar with the latest apparatus and methods. In 1909 he came to California and in July of that year graduated from the Los Angeles College of Optometry and Ophthalmology.

Dr. Laisne chose Fresno as the place in which to build himself up in his rising profession, and in 1910 he opened an office in the Republican Building, and began the practice which has placed him—in the opinion of those most familiar with his work—among the very best Optometrists and Opticians in California. After the death of Dr. Rowell in 1912, Dr. Laisne was able to occupy the well known rooms in the corner of the second floor of the Republican Building, which Dr. Rowell had used for so many years. Here he remained until May, 1918, when his increasing business and growing reputation



Dr. E. W. Laisné

demanding a more commodious and accessible location. He leased and fitted up his present admirably equipped offices and work shop, adjoining the Bank and Trust Company of Central California, at 1054 J Street, and exactly opposite that old landmark, the Grand Central Hotel. Since removing to this prominent location, his business has more than doubled, and will undoubtedly increase rapidly from year to year.

If we add to his genius for Optical work and invention, a rare philosophical insight and an intense desire to be thorough in all his professional work, together with an unusual amount of industry, we have the causes of his remarkable success in treating the eyes of thousands of people in this city and county, and in the valley at large. In many of his cases, Dr. Laisne has been wonderfully successful in restoring and strengthening vision, and in removing the source of various nervous disorders, as well as that of various other organic troubles which (the medical profession now asserts) are largely due to defects of vision, and are amenable to correcting lenses. The writer confidently predicts that Dr. Laisne's fame as an eye specialist will extend throughout the State of California, and probably throughout the country.

LORENZO B. CHURCH.—Among the worthiest representatives of well-known pioneer families of California must be mentioned Lorenzo B. Church, the son of the founder of the canal system in Fresno County, and a native of Lake County, Ind., where he was born in 1845. His father was M. J. Church, a native of Illinois, who removed to Lake County and there married Sarah Whittington. He was a blacksmith by trade; but he gave up his business connections in the East and in 1852 crossed the great plains with his family, coming to California with the conventional ox teams and wagons. He settled on a ranch near Stockton, where he again opened a blacksmith shop; but after a year he removed to Napa County, near Middleton, in what is now Lake County, not far from the head-waters of Putah Creek, and there embarked in the stock business. He continued there as a stockman for eight years, and then he took up his residence in Napa City, built a large blacksmith shop and conducted that for a couple of years. When he sold out, he located in Fresno County at Centerville, and there he engaged in sheep-raising for another two or three years; and in 1870 he started the canals that made Fresno County famous. He began about three miles above Centerville, and took the water needed from the Kings River, calculating, as he progressed, on gravity; he bought lands and traded water rights; and as is more definitely set forth in the historical portion of this work, he constructed a system much needed and of the greatest value to the communities they sought to serve. Finally, he sold all of his interest in the canals, and in the transaction was cheated out of about one-half of what he was entitled to, so that the matter is still in the courts. Lorenzo's father then went to Oakdale and bought the Lane Mineral Springs; and he kept that resort and a cattle-ranch near-by until he died. When Mrs. Church died in Fresno she was the mother of eight children, only three of whom are still living. The oldest are Lorenzo B. and a twin sister, Mrs. Lodema Fanning of Fresno, and Amanda, Mrs. Munn of Fine Gold, Madera County.

Coming to California across the plains in his eighth year, Lorenzo was reared in Napa and educated in its public schools, and from a boy learned the blacksmith trade. As early as 1870, he came to Fresno County, remaining about nine months, then went to Lake County and engaged in sheep raising in Napa and Lake Counties; homesteaded and preempted also near Middletown, on Putah Creek. He bought more land, until he had over 800 acres, and continued there until the spring of 1879, when he sold out and located in Fresno County.

He immediately went to work constructing canals, and for five years he was foreman under his father, after which he was superintendent of the company that bought his father out. This was the firm of Perrin & Cheek,

and under them and their successors he continued for about twenty-two years. Then he resigned, to look after his own interests.

Soon after he located here and bought 320 acres just west of Fresno. There he built a home and engaged in grain ranching, later laying out 100 acres in a vineyard and orchard. Still later he began renting for gardens, and for twenty years he ran the Church Dairy. He laid out Church Avenue, planting the beautiful shade trees there, and he also plotted out Fruit Avenue, as the eastern line of the ranch. He built a store on the corner and commenced the well-known mercantile business, which is now the property of his granddaughter, Mrs. J. D. Quick. In addition to these holdings, Mr. Church owns valuable residence and business property in Fresno. A man of affairs in the commercial world, he is also influential in politics, working for national issues under the banners of the Republican party.

At Lower Lake, October 3, 1868, Mr. Church was married to Miss Josephine Springston, who was born in the East and died July 13, 1913, the mother of five children: Carrie, was Mrs. Hickok and she died in Fresno County February 14, 1900, the mother of two children—Estella, now Mrs. Ben Brophy, who lives in Fresno; and Ina, now Mrs. J. D. Quick, of the same city; Rena, Mrs. Turnbull of Fresno, mother of three children, one still living, Lorilla, Mrs. A. T. Doore, also of Fresno; Lola died when she was twenty years of age; Leona, wife of M. Brophy of Fresno, and Lorenzo, a babe, survived only his first six months.

JOEL THOMAS ELAM.—A resident of California since 1852, Joel Thomas Elam, or "Tom" as he is called by his friends, was born on March 15, 1851, in Bell County, Texas, and from the Lone Star State was brought to California by his parents, Joel Elam, a native of either Tennessee or Virginia and a member of an old Virginia family, and Sarah Frances Callis, a native of Kentucky, whom he married in Tennessee. The happy couple came to Texas, where Mr. Elam followed his trade of a machinist; but as he was in very poor health, he was advised by physicians to remove to the Pacific Coast, in the hope that a milder climate might renew his constitution. With that yearning in view, he started with his wife and five children across the plains in an ox team train; but he was destined never to see the blue waters of the Pacific, for he died en route and was buried on the trackless plains.

His widow brought the little children through to El Monte, the youngest a baby and the oldest a boy in his ninth year; and from El Monte they moved to San Juan. There she was married again to a Mr. Presley, a farmer and a stockraiser, and four children were born from this second union. Afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Presley removed to San Joaquin County, then to Stanislaus County, and then to Mariposa County, and at Mormon Bar Mrs. Presley kept a boarding house, rearing and schooling her children as best she could. When they were old enough to farm, they moved to Pea Ridge, and later to Chowchilla; and here the children, while farming and raising stock, cared for their mother in return, until she became very ill, and was taken to Stockton for treatment, where she died, in her sixty-fourth year. She was a wonderful woman, full of energy and ambition, a devout Methodist, rearing her family in the ways of honesty and truth, and she had the satisfaction of living to see the children stand by her to the end.

Of the five children by her first marriage, Joel Thomas was the youngest, and his earliest recollections are of the Golden West. He attended school in the wilds of Mariposa County, and as early as his eighth year went to work in a dairy at Chowchilla, where he continued until he was fifteen. Then, for four years, he raised hogs on shares, meeting with reasonable success, and after that, for eighteen months, he worked on a farm for Frank Twitchell. During that time, he drew only ten dollars of his wages; and when Twitchell failed, he lost all that he had earned. He then worked for other ranchers until 1876 when, with his brother, Taylor M. Elam, he bought

some cattle and engaged in stockraising. The year 1877, however, proved one of the terrible "dry years" of Coast history, and they were compelled to drive their cattle far back into the Yosemite Valley, in order to save most of them. After that, the brothers ran their stock at Pea Ridge for seven years.

In 1879 Mr. Elam was married in Mariposa County to Miss Mary E. Mullins, a native of that county, and after that he dissolved partnership with his brother, and farmed alone at Chowchilla until 1886. There, ten years later, his wife died. In his farming operations he was successful, especially as a raiser of grain, for which he used three big teams and a combined harvester; but selling his outfit, he engaged in raising cattle, mules and horses. He also owned a good ranch, while he rented a stock range.

In 1901 he brought his cattle and stock to Fresno County, and leasing from M. Theo. Kearney, started a dairy on the Kearney ranch. Then, in 1902, he married a second time, choosing for his wife Mrs. Elizabeth Frances (Beever) Mullins, a native of Mariposa County. Her father, John Beever, had crossed the plains in pioneer days, was a good miner and then a stock raiser, making a specialty of fine horses; and by her union with Mr. Mullins she had had one daughter, Ida, now Mrs. Russell, who since her mother's death, on August 24, 1917, presides over Mr. Elam's home.

Mr. Elam bought a ranch of fifty-five acres, in 1904, on North Avenue, four miles southeast of Kerman, taking into partnership again his brother, Taylor M. Elam. This they leveled and improved to alfalfa, and then continued dairying and stock-raising. They also own forty acres on Kearney Avenue, which they have improved to alfalfa, where they have installed a pumping plant for irrigating; and they have 700 acres for pasture. Here they maintain a dairy herd of sixty cows, besides many stock cattle. Ever since 1904 Mr. Elam has made his home in Fresno, superintending the ranch from there.

He is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association, a member of the Methodist Church, South. He has been very active in church work, liberal and enterprising, and gives his support gladly to every movement that has for its object the building up of the county, and the enhancing of the comfort and morals of the people.

BUNNIE LAWRENCE WYLLIE.—An enterprising and popular citizen, and the son of a prominent early settler who had the distinction of first advocating irrigation for the Helm district and of planting some of the first alfalfa there, and who was therefore a true up-builder of Central California, was Bunnie Lawrence Wyllie, a man of affairs wisely following in his father's footsteps. He was born at Fresno, on June 18, 1887, the son of Franklin Pierce Wyllie, a native of Missouri who was reared there. Grandfather Wyllie was born in Scotland, so that the family may be well-satisfied with its Scotch-American origin and blood. F. P. Wyllie was a farmer who came out to California about the middle eighties, and settling at Fresno, became a horticulturist and viticulturist. Later he moved to Burrel, Fresno County, and leased the Burrel Estate, where he raised grain until 1900, when he bought a ranch at Helm, which he improved, planting alfalfa. He had 160 acres, and he was the first to demonstrate that this section was well adapted to the growing of alfalfa. He was prominent in the projects to irrigate Helm and the surrounding country, and built both the weir that dammed the slough and the headgate of the Stinson canal. He died there in 1910. He had married Elizabeth Harris, a native of Missouri, the ceremony taking place at Sedalia, and she now resides in San Francisco.

Seven children were born to this pioneer couple. Hattie is Mrs. Sudden of the Bay metropolis; Delta, who became Mrs. Brawner, died in Texas; Bertha is Mrs. Keep, of Ogden, Utah; Bunnie Lawrence is the subject of this sketch; Clarence, is deceased; Ruth is Mrs. Rodgers of Arizona; and Hazel is Mrs. Miller of San Francisco.

Bunnie Lawrence was brought up in Fresno County, and attended the public schools at both Burrel and Helm, and finally graduated from the Fresno High School, being a member of the Class of '08. After graduation, he entered the Bank of Coalinga as bookkeeper, and continued there for five years. He was receiving teller and in 1914 was promoted to be assistant cashier; and when the two banks were consolidated, he continued with the First National Bank about six months, when he resigned, to engage in ranching.

In April, 1916, he leased the old house on the home place and the land adjoining and started to raise hogs; later became a wheat farmer operating on modern lines. In January, 1917, Mr. Wyllie bought an interest in Spear Bros., the Dodge motor agency; but in March, 1918, he sold out to his partners. With Mr. Diltz he then bought out the Kratzer Service Station on E Street, which also has a fine garage in connection.

On November 29, 1911, Mr. Wyllie was married at Fresno to Miss Stella Jenkins, a native of Salinas, Cal., and the daughter of Louis B. Jenkins, a native son of the state, who was born at Hanford. Grandfather Jenkins came from Kentucky, and was a pioneer who settled at Stockton, where he was an attorney and a justice of the peace. L. B. Jenkins popularly known as Judge Jenkins, engaged in farming at Salinas, and was also an attorney and justice of the peace. He died at Salinas. He had married Carrie Pursell, a native daughter, whose father was James Pursell; he was born in Iowa and crossed the plains to California in 1852, and later he made several trips back and forth across the continent, and he also traveled widely over the state. Mrs. Jenkins, who remarried and is now Mrs. Barber, resides at Chico. She was the mother of four children, three of whom are living; and of these Mrs. Wyllie is the oldest. She is a graduate of the Hanford high school and of the San Jose State Normal, where she was a member of the Class of 1910; and later she taught school at Coalinga.

Mr. Wyllie served for two terms as city treasurer of Coalinga, and his administration of that office was such as to reflect creditably both on himself and the constituency that placed him there. Mr. Wyllie died January 5, 1919, of influenza and was mourned by his family and many friends who admired him for his manliness and worth as a citizen.

HUGH ROBERT McCORD.—One of the early settlers of the West Side who by perseverance and close application has made a success of farming is Hugh Robert McCord, a native of New York, born near Warrensburg, Warren County, December 17, 1850. His father was a farmer at Omro, Winnebago County, Wis., and served in the Fifth Wisconsin Cavalry in the Civil War until he was killed at the battle of Vicksburg, Miss., in 1863. Mr. McCord's grandfather was a native of Vermont and served in the War of 1812, while great-grandfather McCord, who was of Scotch descent, served in the Revolutionary War and experienced the terrible winter at Valley Forge. Mr. McCord had two brothers in the Civil War: Thomas, who was killed at the Battle of Perryville, Ky., while James served through the war in the Twenty-first Wisconsin Regiment, and after the war was an engineer on the Wisconsin River until his death. Mr. McCord's mother died when he was six weeks old, leaving five children, two of whom are living, he being the youngest. He was reared in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Allen Saville, where he grew up on a farm and received a good education in the public schools. In 1865 he came out to Omro, Wis., and lived with his oldest sister, Mrs. Jane A. Nye, who is still living and is now making her home in California.

He immediately apprenticed as a flour miller at Omro learning the trade in the old Burr mill run by water power. In 1868 he removed to Albany, Green County, Wis., where he met with an accident in the mill which necessitated his laying off and he went to school for two years. In 1871 he came gradually west, working in flour mills in Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas.



Lillian M Lefever.
Berley Lefever

In the fall of 1874 he came to San Francisco and in the spring of 1875 he came to Murrays mill on the Merced River where he was manager of the mill for two years; then to Dixon, Solano County, where he ran a mill a season and in the fall of 1877 he came to Sperrys mill in Stockton where he was stonedresser until the spring of 1878, when he accepted the place as manager of the Paradise mills near Modesto, a position he filled for fourteen years. He remodeled the mill, putting in the full new roller process and built up a big business and a good trade.

As early as 1887 he located a homestead of 160 acres on the West Side, where his family resided while he continued in his position to make the money for their living expenses and homestead improvements. In 1892, however, he gave up his position and turned his attention to farming. When he came here there were no water wells in the vicinity and he purchased a well rig in Stanislaus County and brought it to his home and drilled a well, then drilled for his neighbors. Then a sheep man concluded he wanted to summer on the West Side and Mr. McCord drilled a well for him, and then others caught the same fever and he continued in well drilling for twenty-two years, drilling hundreds of wells on the different farms on the West Side. He added to his holdings and now has 500 acres here where he engages in stock-raising.

Mr. McCord was married in Modesto to Miss Mary A. Baldwin, born in Manchester, England, who came with her parents to New Harmony, Ind., and in 1876 came to California. He was bereaved of his wife on July 30, 1919. She was a devout Presbyterian.

Mr. McCord became a member of the Odd Fellows in Waterville, Kans. Then was a member of the Modesto Lodge of Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and now is a member of the Coalinga Lodge. He helped organize the Idlewild school district of which he was a trustee for many years. Politically he is a Social Democrat.

BESLEY LEFEVER.—The efficient superintendent of the Confidence Oil Company, the oldest company in the west side oil field of Coalinga, is Besley Lefever, who has been a resident of this section of the county since 1898. He was born in Ellenville, Ulster County, N. Y., June 25, 1858, a son of Alfred and Susan (Frear) Lefever, the father being of French descent, but a native of Esopus, N. Y., the mother a native of Ellenville, the same state. The original spelling of the name was La Fevre, meaning in French "the smith," but later generations changed the spelling to Lefever.

During the Civil War the father was a member of the Fifty-sixth Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry, and was killed in the Battle of Honey Hill, Va. The mother was left a widow with five children, and through all of her hardships she kept the family together, reared them to useful lives and gave them the best educational advantages she could under the circumstances. Later in life she was affectionally cared for by her loving children, her last years being spent in Coalinga, where she passed away in 1913, at the advanced age of ninety-five years. The family consisted of: Huffman, who died about 1865; William, who died in Denver, Colo., November 28, 1918; Charles, who passed away at Livermore, Cal., in 1917, was one of the pioneer oil men of Coalinga; Besley, the subject of this sketch; and Mary, who is now Mrs. Hamm of Coalinga.

Besley Lefever was brought up in Ellenville, N. Y., and at an early age he was obliged to go to work to help his mother support the family, therefore his educational advantages were limited. Before he was thirteen years of age he was working on a packet, running down the Hudson River from Ellenville to New York City, and when a little more than fourteen years old had risen to be a captain of one of these boats. In that capacity he continued until 1876, being then about eighteen, when he resigned and left for Mound City, Kans., where he arrived in 1877.

In 1878 he continued his journey further westward, locating at Leadville, Colo., arriving there about the beginning of mining developments in that section. With his brother William in 1879, he went to Garfield, Chaffee County, Colo., where they helped start the Monarch mining district and mined until 1883. Upon the discovery of oil at Florence, he made his way to the new oil field, where he gained valuable experience as an oil driller. He and his brother Charles engaged in contract drilling, and in addition to the Florence field they operated their business at Santa Fe, N. M. In December, 1897, Besley Lefever came to California and worked for a while in the Los Angeles oil field. It was in 1898 that he made his advent in the Coalinga field, and at first he was engaged with the New York Oil Company, drilling for oil on the hill above Oil City, where oil had already been discovered. About the same time James Gilbreath drilled for the Selma Oil Company, on the hill which was located on section 20-19-15, but when the drilling was finished it proved to be a dry hole. Mr. Gilbreath then went to the east side and drilled a well for the Independent Oil Company on section 28, which is now the property of the Standard Oil Company. Mr. Lefever was at this time engaged in drilling on the west side for the Confidence Oil Company, on section 31-19-15 and was successful in obtaining oil. This was in 1900, and marks the beginning of the west side oil field. The Confidence Oil Company continued their developments on their property which consists of 160 acres, and now have many good, producing wells, the original well being still in operation. Mr. Lefever is a stockholder in the company, and among the original stockholders were the following: Judge Risley, E. A. Walron, Frank Clair, James Vincent, and David S. Ewing. Besley Lefever, in point of service, is one of the oldest operators in the Coalinga oil field and is regarded as one of the best posted oil men in this section. His services in behalf of the Confidence Oil Company all these years have been appreciated by the officers of the company, because in 1919, the Call Oil Company (composed of practically the same personnel) made him superintendent of their property in the Coalinga field. This mark of appreciation and confidence is a distinct compliment to Mr. Lefever.

At Florence, Colo., June 4, 1890, Besley Lefever was united in marriage with Lillian M. Widerfelt, a native of Springfield, Ill., and daughter of William and Margaret (McNelley) Widerfelt, natives of New Jersey. Mrs. Lefever went to Florence, Colo., in 1888, to visit her brother William, and there she met Mr. Lefever, an acquaintance that resulted in their marriage. They are the parents of two children: William Arnet, who served in the United States Army in the World War, is now in the Texas oil fields; Irene, is now the wife of Karl Lewis, the cashier of the First National Bank, at Dinuba, Cal.

Mr. Lefever has been a member of the Knights of Pythias since 1888, and is now a Past Commander; while his wife is a member of the Pythian Sisters of which organization she is a Past Chief, and is also past president of the Welcome Club, and chairman of the Welcome Club Auxiliary of Coalinga Chapter of the Red Cross. Mr. and Mrs. Lefever were very patriotic and intensely interested in forwarding every movement that aided in winning the war. Religiously they are both members of the Presbyterian Church, and in Coalinga social circles are very popular and highly esteemed.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF FOWLER.—No town in California is more fortunate than Fowler in the character and caliber of the men entrusted with its financial interests, as will be seen alone from the history of the First National Bank which was organized on August 25, 1904. Another bank was organized at Fowler in January, 1913, having also been created under the Federal laws, and that was called the Fowler National Bank, an institution that built the beautiful two-story brick building occupied by the First National since 1913.



Thomas Cowan



Berulah Cowan.

In 1914 there was a merger of the two banks mentioned, an achievement made possible by the purchase of the stock in the First National Bank by the Fowler National, whose interests were thereupon transferred to the First National Bank, which has ever since occupied the banking offices and continued a general banking business under the corporate name of the First National Bank.

It is a solid financial institution, as may be seen by the examination of any of its recent official reports. On December 31, 1917, for example, it had for its resources loans and discounts to the amount of \$337,580.46; United States bonds worth \$96,106; municipal and other bonds totalling \$59,876.67; \$1,800 worth of Federal Reserve Bank stock; banking house and fixtures worth \$27,700; \$500 in other real estate; a five per cent. fund amounting to \$2,500; and \$162,855.82 in cash and due from other banks. Its liabilities are included in a capital stock of \$50,000; a surplus fund of \$10,000; undivided profits to the amount of \$5,843.44; a dividend (No. 14) of \$5,000; a circulation of \$50,000, and deposits to the amount of \$568,075.31, the debits and credits balancing at the sum of \$688,918.75. The bank pays four per cent. interest on time deposits, and rents its safe deposit boxes at \$2, \$3 and \$5 per year.

The officers of this institution for 1917 were: President, Fred Nelson; Vice-president, C. V. Peterson; Cashier, L. J. Harriman; Assistant Cashier, R. E. Giffen. Directors, Fred Nelson, C. V. Peterson, L. J. Harriman, J. H. Weinberg, C. A. Rigby, and H. W. Wrightson. Among the bank's stockholders are many wealthy men of Fowler and Fresno County, and these, with the officers, endeavor in every way to further the best interests of the bank's patrons.

THOMAS A. COWAN.—Enjoying the distinction of being the oldest living resident rancher in the Summit Lake country, and one of its foremost and highly-respected citizens, Thomas A. Cowan also enjoys the prestige of both a thoroughly practical wheat and grain farmer—using only the most up-to-date machinery—and one of the largest and most successful growers on the West Side. Living on his home ranch of 320 acres four miles west of Lanare, and half a mile to the south of that town, he also operates two sections of the Kings County Development Company's land ten miles north of Huron.

He was born in McDonough County, Ill., on February 11, 1859, the son of William Cowan, a native of Scotland, who came to America with his parents and grew up to be a coal miner. He came to McDonough County, Ill., to work at coal mining. In time he became the owner of a farm of 160 acres. His wife was Mary Ann Bright, before marriage and was born in England. Thomas Cowan worked both in the mines and on his father's farm, turning to the latter in summer, and busying himself at mining during the winters. As a boy at home, he attended the public schools of McDonough County. In that county, at the ripe old age of eighty-four, William Cowan passed away; but the mother still lives at Colchester, eighty-four years old. Seven children—four boys and three girls—were born to this worthy couple; and Thomas is the second oldest son and child. A brother, Charles Cowan, lives four miles north of Modesto, and is a dairy farmer.

It was the fall of 1880 when Thomas Cowan first came to California, and began working near Grangeville, in what is now Kings County, hiring out as a farm hand. He spent from 1882 to 1884 in Washington Territory, and in Whitman County proved up a claim of 160 acres. Then he returned to Grangeville and for several years worked for his uncle, "Wash" Bloyd, the pioneer farmer and "wheat king." In 1886, he and three of his cousins, sons of Mr. Bloyd, came up to the Summit Lake country, then a new district in Fresno County, and each bought a tract of eighty acres, improving the land and farming.

In 1892, Mr. Cowan was married to Miss Beulah Beatty, a native of Clayton County, Iowa, who had come to California with her parents; and as the only one of the Summit Lake party to remain here, he settled on his present place, then consisting of 160 acres, which he had bought and partially improved. Later he added another 160 acres by purchase, and he has made the ranch his home ever since.

In 1917 Mr. Cowan bought a forty-five horsepower Holt caterpillar tractor, and in 1919 he purchased a Steward truck of one and a half tons, on which he hauls loads of three tons each to Lanare, his shipping point. On July 26, 1919, he thus transported 181 sacks of grain from his Huron ranch to Lanare, thirteen miles distant, in four trips covering 104 miles, and loading and unloading, or "bucking" the sacks all alone without exhausting himself or having a breakdown—a showing, at sixty years of age, for which no one need be ashamed. As a self-made man, he is well-muscled, powerfully built physically, and bright and able mentally. The war-draft left him very short of help, and there was little to do, but knuckle down to the situation uncomplainingly. The year 1919 was very dry, yet such was Mr. Cowan's continued mastery of problems that his crops were very fine. From the Cowan home ranch of 320 acres, Mr. Cowan took in 1919, 2,500 sacks of barley and 300 sacks of wheat; while from the Huron ranch in the same season he harvested 3,700 sacks of barley and 2,750 sacks of wheat. He is still the sole proprietor of one of the two sections of rented land in the Huron district, while in operating the other, he is in partnership with Dick Miles of Hanford.

Mr. and Mrs. Cowan have two children, of whom they may well be proud. William T. served in France, and returned on July 21, 1919, honorably discharged from the hospital service. Charles E. also served in France with the Forty-second Balloon Company; was honorably discharged and reached home on May 3, 1919.

Mrs. Cowan is a bright, cheerful and interesting woman who shares with her husband an agreeable popularity; he belongs to the Odd Fellows at Lemoore.

EMMETT G. RICHMOND.—A successful California rancher who not only has been a close observer and an untiring student in endeavoring to learn how best to care for vines and orchards, but through mastering a knowledge of Fresno County soils has become well posted as a horticulturist and viti-culturist, is Emmett G. Richmond, the son of Theodore W. Richmond. The father went from Indiana, where he was born, to Iowa, where he homesteaded; and when the war broke out between the North and the South, he was among the first to volunteer to stand by Lincoln, and he was made captain of Company H of the Nineteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, which he had organized. He did valiant service at the siege of Vicksburg, and was later laid up through exposure to malaria. Returning to the avocations of peace, he farmed in Scotland County, Mo., and there he died, aged sixty-seven years. The family originally came from New York State, where the name is most favorably known.

Theodore Richmond married Elvira Irish, a daughter of the Hoosier State, whose parents, of the long line of Mayflower stock, came from Connecticut. She died in Missouri, greatly honored, the mother of ten children; six of whom have grown to maturity. The youngest of those still living is Emmett.

He was brought up on a farm, and attended the public schools, and with his parents, he remained, assisting at the farm work, until he was twenty-three years of age. On February 4, 1891, he was married near Memphis to Miss Minnie N. Easterday, who was born in Columbus, Ohio. She came to Scotland County, Mo., with her parents D. L. and Nancy (Warren) Easterday. After his marriage Mr. Richmond began to farm for himself. He bought a farm, but sold it again in 1904, when he came to California.



C. H. Goodrich



Mary C. Goodrich.

The first purchase consisted of twenty acres three miles west of Fresno on California Avenue, where he engaged in viticulture and horticulture, but promising as was the outlook, circumstances led him to return to Missouri at the end of three years, when he bought a farm there. At the end of two years, however, he had sold out and was back again in California—like so many thousands of other folk, who have once fallen under the charm of the Golden State; and it was then that he secured his present place of twenty acres on Clinton Avenue in the Montpelier tract. The land needed much improvement, and Mr. Richmond, through his experience and industry, gave it just what was needed.

He later bought twelve and a half acres in the Roeding Villa Colony on Clinton Avenue. He leveled it and set out a peach orchard and vineyard, planting Thompson seedless, peaches and olives; and although he disposed of some of the property in 1916, he still owns twenty acres, and a fine residence built in the fall of 1918. He also owns some valuable property in Fresno, consisting of a residence and several lots. He is a member and a stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and also of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Two children were born to bless this happy union; but one, Anna Idell, died in her eleventh year—in the fall of 1904. Edna Pearl, the other daughter, is now the wife of Adam Robbins of Fresno. The family attend the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Fresno; and Mr. Richmond belongs to Lodge No. 158 of the Odd Fellows in Fresno.

A Republican in matters of national political import, Mr. Richmond has shown his desire to cast party lines aside in the support of local movements, and has served two terms as school trustee in the Roeding district.

CHARLES FREDERICK GOODRICH.—One of the most prominent and successful ranchers in the vicinity of Tranquillity, Fresno County, is Charles F. Goodrich, the son of a California pioneer and himself a native son, born May 26, 1867, in San Juan, San Benito County. His father, Charles Henry Goodrich, was a native of Maine, who in 1852, came to San Francisco via Cape Horn. At first he was engaged by Flint & Bixby, large landed proprietors in San Benito County, and being very industrious and thrifty he saved his money until he had sufficient capital to engage in the sheep-raising business on his own account. He purchased land and ranged his sheep in Pleasant Valley, near what is now the Coalinga oil district, Fresno County. In 1879, he located at Riverdale, and at one time owned a ranch south of Selma where he followed farming and stock-raising. He died in 1893, while on a trip to the mountains in the Kings River district, and at his passing the county lost a public-spirited citizen. The mother of C. F. Goodrich was Maggie McCarthy, in maidenhood, a native of Ireland who came with her parents to San Francisco when she was a child, and it was in the city by the Golden Gate that she grew to young womanhood, afterwards she going to San Juan, San Benito County, where she married Mr. Goodrich. She passed away in 1877, the mother of five children.

Charles F. Goodrich was the oldest of the five children and was reared in San Benito County until 1879, when he accompanied his father to Fresno County where he attended school in Central Colony, afterwards attending school at Lemoore. At the early age of fifteen years he was obliged to make his own living and at first he was employed at teaming, to and from the mountains, for Mr. Jacobs. Being very ambitious to get a start in business for himself, he saved his money and by the time he was twenty-two he had accumulated enough cash to purchase an outfit and, with his younger brother Edward, leased land at Caruthers where they raised grain and here they continued to farm until the unusually dry year of 1898, when they were obliged to abandon their enterprise and dissolved partnership. After this Charles F. leased swamp lands of Jeff James, above San Joaquin, and here he

operated 1,000 acres, used four big teams and had a combined harvester to cut and thresh his crops. After he had disposed of this lease he purchased his present ranch of eighty acres in 1910, and later bought forty acres located one mile farther east. He improved these ranches by leveling and checking, and engaged in raising alfalfa. On one of his ranches he sunk an artesian well, going down 1,100 feet, and to conserve the water for irrigation purposes he constructed a reservoir. His land is especially good for raising grain and alfalfa. In addition to operating his own ranches, Mr. Goodrich leases other land and altogether operates about 900 acres, 200 being devoted to alfalfa and 700 to grain. He helped to build the old Joaquin Ditch and reclaimed about 700 acres of swamp land for Jeff James, the land being known as the old Goodrich Ranch, on the San Joaquin River. He did this work while leasing the land and raising grain. In 1916, C. F. Goodrich, accompanied by his brother and others, went to Lower California, where they engaged in reclamation work of about 62,000 acres below Calxico. They seeded 8,000 acres to wheat and installed two steam pumps for irrigating the land. This concern was composed of ranchers and sheepmen of Tulare, Kings and Fresno Counties, and was known as the Chinn Gravel Company. They remained there one season and it is now leased as fast as water can be supplied.

In 1891, C. F. Goodrich was united in marriage with Miss Mary Elizabeth Forsyth, a native of Scotland, who came to California when a girl, with her parents. The ceremony was solemnized at Caruthers, Fresno County and this happy union was blessed with five children: Naomi, who is a graduate of the San Benito high school, lives with her parents; Ralph, who served in the Seventieth Balloon Company, Aviation Department, U. S. Army; Charles, who also served his country as a member of Company A One Hundred First Engineers, Twenty-sixth Division, and was stationed in France for one year, and saw service through all the battles, going over the top twelve times; Fred, a student at the Caruthers high school and assisting his father on the ranch; Ellsworth, a graduate of the Easton high school, also attended the University of Southern California, and who is now employed by the Standard Oil Company at San Joaquin.

Mr. Goodrich is a very progressive and public-spirited citizen and is especially interested in the advancement of the educational interests of his community, being a trustee of Tranquillity School District, as well as a member of the board of trustees of Tranquillity Union High School. He is also a director of the Tranquillity Irrigation District which embraces over 11,000 acres of land. In national politics he supports the Republican ticket and in early days served as a member of the county central committee. He is one of the directors of the First National Bank of Tranquillity.

WILLIAM FRANKLIN STRADER.—Many of Fresno County's citizens have come from east of the Rockies, but there are others who are native to California, and these have taken care that the reputation of the State has not suffered. By their sterling qualities and progressive tendencies, they have but added to the advancement of this section, and the county is noted for its splendid citizenship. Among those who have given a good account of themselves, is William F. Strader.

He was born in San Francisco, Cal., January 4, 1876. His father, William, was a native of Ohio, who crossed the plains in the early sixties, locating in San Francisco. There he engaged in teaming, contracting and grading with Charles Warren as a partner. They followed this work for a number of years, and were vitally connected with the growth of the Golden Gate city in the days when the people were living in tents. In 1884 Mr. Strader came to Fresno County, and was one of the founders of the Pleasant Valley Stock Farm, located near Coalinga. At that time most of this ranch was devoted to grain-raising. Following this, Mr. Strader homesteaded eighty acres south-east of Coalinga, and engaged in grain-raising. He was a man who made many friends, and was always loyal to California and to Fresno County. He

was married to Amelia Correll, who died in 1914, and he died on the ranch in the spring of 1918. There were five children born to Mr. and Mrs. Strader: Mrs. Lena Wallace, of Dinuba; William Franklin of this review; Mrs. Lillian Kurtz of Lemoore; Mrs. Jessie Walker, deceased; and John J. of Coalinga.

Wm. F. Strader came to Fresno County in 1884 and received a good education in the public schools. He started in when a very young man to farm, and has continued in that same business ever since. For awhile he engaged in teaming to the oil fields between seasons in early days of oil development. He has farmed from two to five hundred acres of rented land on the plains to grain, and has also done a lot of contract work for other grain farmers. In 1918 he had 160 acres in Egyptian corn, which averaged one ton to the acre; and forty acres in barley, which averaged sixteen sacks to the acre. He leases about 1,000 acres which he devotes to grain farming and also owns 180 acres of range land southeast of Coalinga. He makes his home on the old home ranch. He is very loyal to Fresno County, where he has lived since a boy of eight years of age, and is a successful farmer and a good citizen.

WILLIAM S. STALEY.—A pioneer citizen whose life story will ever be of peculiar and instructive interest, and in whom the student of local lore will find additional attraction because of his relationship to the owner of the land on which Selma was originally laid out, is William S. Staley, the son of Stephen Staley, a Virginia farmer born in 1808. His father was Jacob Staley, and he moved from Pennsylvania to Virginia in 1796. The Staleys originally came from Germany, and were among the sons of the German Fatherland who, following Baron Von Steuben and others, came over to help the Yankee colonists found a free republic. Stephen Staley came to California in 1880, settled at Selma, and died here, at the age of seventy-seven, and was buried in the Selma Cemetery. William's mother was Anna Rebecca Metcalf before her marriage; she, too, came to California, and here she ended her days. One of her daughters is Ellen R. Whitson, the widow of the late J. E. Whitson, on whose 160 acres Selma had its beginnings.

William was born on July 20, 1844, in what was then Jefferson County, Virginia, but has since become a part of West Virginia, and growing up in that corner of the undeveloped country, he had but meager educational advantages. At sixteen he quit school, and six months later he went into the Confederate Army, serving under Lee for four and a half years, and experiencing all the dangers and privations attending the engagements at Bull Run, Chancellorsville, and Gettysburg, as well as numerous minor battles and skirmishes. Though serving a lost cause, the experience enabled him, as well as thousands of others, to display that fortitude of soul and body that posterity has willingly accorded all honor to, as essentially American.

In 1872, Mr. Staley was married to Miss Fannie Hursperger, of Jefferson, Md., after which, for three years, they continued to farm in Virginia on the old Staley homestead. In that year they came to California, bringing a baby boy two years old. Mr. Staley really came to California first alone, leaving his home in Shepherdstown, W. Va., on April 18, 1875, and making for Colusa County, where he remained until the third week in December, 1876, when the party reached Selma. Mrs. Staley had joined her husband in Colusa County, but in Selma she found her first California home. When Mr. and Mrs. Staley and family first reached this section, they went to Kingsburg and stopped there over night; and the next day Mr. Staley went out and bought a claim of railway land, securing not only the original settler's rights, but his house and barn. When this land was thrown open for settlement, the eighty acres sold for five dollars an acre, and later Mr. Staley bought twenty acres five miles west for five dollars an acre. In 1916, he sold this for \$13,000.

The union of Mr. and Mrs. Staley was blessed with six children: Robert T. is a miner at Barstow, Cal.; Edith Harley is the efficient librarian at the Selma Carnegie Library; Harry B. and Hattie V. are twins; Grace Anna is

the fifth child, and William O., the Selma grocer, is the youngest born. All have attended the Episcopal Church, Mr. Staley having belonged to that church for the past forty years, during which time he helped build the Episcopal Church at Selma. The faithful wife and mother who so long watched over their welfare, was taken from this life on October 20, 1914, in her sixty-second year, beloved by all who knew her.

Mr. Staley has never failed to show his interest in public affairs, particularly those of the community with which he has been identified during so many years, and he has left an enviable record for civic performance. For fourteen years he was a member of the Board of School Trustees, and he served when the first two grammar school buildings were erected, and had a part in creating the beautiful high school structure. From 1892 to 1896, also, he was postmaster of Selma, and old-timers will recall with pleasure his efficient and courteous service. For the past twenty years, Mr. Staley has lived retired, residing at his Selma home, 1827 Sylvia Street, with his two accomplished daughters, Edith H. and Grace A. Staley. There the old-time hospitality, typical alike of California, early Selma and the Staley family, is still a lode-stone to many.

MORRIS B. HARRIS.—A citizen of whom any community might well be proud, and a distinguished representative of the California Bar to whom Fresno City and County have frequently looked for the performance of difficult and responsible public service, is the Hon. Morris B. Harris, State Senator of California, long identified with most important educational interests. He was born at Albion, Edwards County, Ill., on September 10, 1866, the son of Lucius Harris, also a native of Albion, who traced his ancestry back to old, heroic English days, the founder of the family in America coming to Massachusetts in 1620. Senator Harris's forebears were represented in every war from the French and Indian to the Civil War; his grandparents came west to Illinois from Connecticut in 1830, and Lucius Harris served as sergeant in an Illinois regiment during the Civil War. When the war was over, he became a merchant at Albion, but in 1887, during the great boom in California realty, he located in Fresno County and purchased a ranch near Oleander, where he farmed until his death.

He had married Miss Constance B. Thompson, a native of Illinois, and also a member of an old Massachusetts family, of Scotch descent, an accomplished lady, who lived her life of usefulness to a wide circle and passed away on the ranch. She was the mother of three children: Morris B., the subject of our review, is the eldest; Ronald is farming at the old home-stead; and E. M. is an attorney who is practicing law with the Senator.

Morris B. Harris was educated at the public schools, after which he attended the University of Indiana at Bloomington for two years. In 1887 he went to Springfield, Ohio, and spent a year at Wittenberg College, where he became a leader in the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity. After that he was employed on the "New Era" of that city for another year. While at Springfield he met the lady who consented to be his wife, and on Washington's Birthday, 1889, he was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Boggs, a native of that city, by whom he has had two children: Marjorie Muentner and Ronald B. The same year, Mr. and Mrs. Harris came to California; and arriving in Fresno, he engaged in teaching school in the county, continuing in that field of desirable endeavor for four years.

At the same time, Mr. Harris studied law; and upon examination in 1895, he was admitted to the bar. He practiced law in Fresno, and was later a partner with Judge M. K. Harris, but in 1907 they dissolved the partnership and then Mr. Harris made his brother, E. M. Harris, his partner. The two gentlemen made an exceptionally good team, and it is doubtful if any members of their profession in the county both merited and received a more flattering patronage. One of the honors coming to Mr. Harris at this time was the presidency of the Fresno County Bar Association.



Chas Wells.

Mr. Harris has taken an active and prominent part in politics, and has been privileged to serve his fellowmen in manners and at times not accorded even all the ambitious, and as a Progressive Republican in particular he has also been highly honored. In 1904 he was chosen a Republican elector on the Roosevelt ticket, and in 1912 he was again selected a Progressive Republican on the same ticket. He was appointed by Governor Johnson a member of the State Board of Education, but after holding the post a year, he found that he had too much to do, and could not give the duties the required attention, and he resigned. He was president of the Board of Trustees of the Fresno State Normal from its inception until January, 1919, and resigned only on taking his seat as State Senator.

In 1918, Mr. Harris was a candidate for State Senator from Fresno County, and at the primary he received the nomination by the Republican, the Democratic and the Prohibition parties; in consequence of which at the November election he had no opposition. He has thus far served ably and conscientiously, and will no doubt continue to give his best efforts to his office during the coming session. As evidence of what he has done to justify the confidence of his constituency, it may be pointed out that Senator Harris introduced what is called the Harris Enforcement Bill, a measure to enforce the National Prohibition Amendment in California, which was passed and signed by the Governor. He also introduced the California Irrigation Act, which became a law and is now about to be used in the plans for the Pine Flat Reservoir. He also introduced and secured the passage of other needed legislation of a high character. He was a member of the Free Conference Committee that framed the community property bill, which was passed and signed by the Governor. He was a member and chairman of the Constitutional Committee which passed out an amendment for calling a constitutional convention for framing a new constitution for California. He is now a member of an educational committee for the purpose of revising the educational laws of the State, and reporting revised laws and an educational system to the next State legislature. During the World War he was chairman of the Fresno County Four Minute Men, and was associate State Director of the Four Minute Men of the State of California.

From the foregoing it will be seen that few names are more inseparably associated with the history of Fresno County than that of Morris B. Harris, State Senator and one of the most scholarly, versatile and influential attorneys not only in Central California but along the Pacific Coast.

CHARLES WELLS.—A member of the board of supervisors who has worked hard and successfully for both good roads and the proper care of the worthy poor, is Charles Wells, the representative of the fourth supervisory district of Fresno County, and an experienced rancher who has greatly improved several farm-properties. He was born at Osceola, Clarke County, Iowa, on July 19, 1872, the son of Abraham Wells, a native of Columbus, Ohio, who married Mary Jane Ray, of Young America, later Niles, Mich. Abraham Wells was a student of Kalamazoo College and there met his future companion. After the marriage, he served four years as a Union soldier in the Civil War, joining the Twenty-fifth Michigan Infantry, and doing duty, besides that of the regular soldier on the fighting line, as chaplain of his regiment. When the war was over, he and his wife moved to Illinois, taking with them their two children; and later he engaged in preaching in Iowa, having by that time four children in his family. When another couple of children had been added, he pitched his tent at Hastings, Nebr., where one more child was granted them, and whence, for the first time, in 1891, he came to California.

Charmed with Selma, he settled there; and having joined the Christian Church, he served that congregation as its pastor until his death, which occurred in 1905. He died at his farm-home of twenty-five acres, two miles northeast of Selma, on the Mill Ditch Road, a ranch that he bought when he first came to this section, and through which he earned his livelihood; for

he never took a dollar for preaching, and thus carried out the spirit of a free Gospel consistently. He lived to be seventy, and was honored and mourned by many.

Mrs. Wells, who is now eighty-three years old, is still living at Selma, bright and active, and the beloved mother of seven children: Allie R., who died in 1919, was the wife of Frank Borin, a farmer of Stockton, Kans., and the mother of fourteen children, all of whom are living and all of whom, save one, have families of their own. Cassius M. is one of the buyers for Libby, McNeill & Libby, and lives at Selma; George E. resides at Selma, and also applies himself to ranching; Harm J. is another rancher in the same place, and Frank E. is a farmer and the Mayor of Fowler. Warren is a rancher at Selma, and there is Charles, next to the youngest, the subject of this sketch.

Charles Wells grew up mainly in Nebraska, and early learned how to raise corn and livestock. He kept up his schooling, and passed the examinations for a second-grade certificate. When he was eighteen, he began to teach for a year; and in 1891 he joined his parents at Selma, having remained behind in Nebraska to finish his year's teaching.

From the first Mr. Wells liked California. He went to work on a ranch; but having a strong inclination for music, he took instruction in the piano, under Professor Bonelli, at the San Francisco Conservatory, and became a first-class pianist. He taught music and worked at the carpenter's trade, and finally travelled with Rev. E. B. Ware, the evangelist, assisting him to hold meetings in various places in the San Joaquin Valley, and having charge of the singing.

While thus engaged he met the young lady who became his wife. She was Miss Maggie Winkelman, of Sanger, the daughter of Joseph and Mollie L. (Burnett) Winkelman, who were among the best known pioneers of Fresno County. Her father was a native of California and died in 1903 at the age of forty-seven, at Academy. He was born at Sacramento, and was well-known as a mountaineer, stockman and teamster. Mrs. Wells' mother is still living in Sanger, and has had five children, three girls and two boys, one of whom, Edward, was accidentally killed. William, the third-born, resides on a ranch west of Selma and is road overseer for the Fourth District; Bertha is the wife of Roy Jewell, and lives at Stockton; and Gertrude is the wife of Seth Cowan of Fresno.

Mr. and Mrs. Wells were married on July 1, 1894, by his father, and they have three children: Leo R., who is with the Third Army of Occupation in Germany; Willie, and Howard. Mrs. Wells is a model mother and housewife, and with her children attends the Christian Science Church.

Leo R. is twenty-four years old and is married to Leta Cook of Selma. He volunteered in July, 1918, in the Tank Service. He trained at Gettysburg, Pa., and there had the influenza, and on his recovery he was ordered to France. He drove a tank in France until the signing up of the armistice, and after that he served as military police in Rome, Italy, for several months and was then transferred to the Third Army of Occupation in Germany, where he is now serving as corporal.

Since their marriage Mr. Wells has bought and improved several places, and has greatly prospered. He has just sold his forty-acre place, four miles north of Selma on the McCall Road, and will probably move into Selma. He owns another ranch of 160 acres four miles west of Selma; and this, set out with vines and trees, was operated by his oldest son before his enlistment. He helped to organize the California Raisin Growers Association and the California Peach Growers Association, and has always identified himself with movements for the advancement of California husbandry.

Supervisor Wells is especially interested in the matter of good roads—improved highways, of course, for Fresno County—and the result is that the boulevards in the county are above the average. He advocates permanent

concrete thoroughfares, and feels that a county out of debt—for Fresno County recently bought \$200,000 worth of bonds to help win the war—should be able to do even better with its highways than it has. It has \$60,000 of San Joaquin bonds, \$150,000 of State Highway bonds, and \$200,000 of school district bonds, and is therefore in the best financial standing.

Supervisor Wells is chairman of the committee on hospitals for the poor, for which Fresno County has just appropriated \$100,000, and to him is due much of the credit for the "Fresno Way" of welfare work which is attracting such wide attention among students of sociology, and which gives neither embarrassment nor pain to those who are aided. The County has 140 acres which it uses to enable the unfortunate to help themselves, and at present there are 450 inmates in the County Hospital, while the old county orphanage has been converted into an Old Folks' Home, and the orphan children are now being reared in private homes, under the eye and custodianship of the Welfare Committee of the Welfare Department which derives its authority by a special ordinance duly enacted by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

WILLIAM JAMES ANTHONY.—Among the old-timers in Fresno County pleasantly remembered and not likely to be soon forgotten is William J. Anthony, who deserves especial honor as one of the builders of Barstow, in laying the foundation for which he showed that foresight which has always characterized the pioneers who founded the great commonwealth. He was born at the Napa Soda Springs in Napa County, on October 7, 1866, the son of John Anthony, who came from Philadelphia, Pa. As a young man he crossed the plains in 1852 to California, and followed mining at Plumas. When he returned east he journeyed by way of the Horn, and on his arrival home he was married to Sarah Jane Beckham, also a native of Philadelphia. Once more he turned his face toward the distant west, and this time he reached San Francisco via Panama. As soon as he was able he made his way inland to Plumas, and there resumed mining; and he continued his search for fortune in Napa County until he abandoned mining for farming and located near St. Helena. Still later he settled near Healdsburg, Sonoma County, and there he died. Mrs. Anthony passed away while they were still living at St. Helena, the mother of four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second oldest.

William was brought up at St. Helena, attended the local public schools and worked on a farm, and there he remained until he was eighteen years of age, when he went to Sonoma County. In 1886 he struck out with a team which he drove into Fresno. His object was to look around and he secured employment in a vineyard; he remained and made his headquarters in the vicinity. He worked in a vineyard at Malaga, and then at Fowler, then for seven years was in the employ of James Jamison. He went over to the West Side on the James ranch, leased land and engaged in the raising of grain. He had two partners, Tom Mullins and Tim Hurley, and they farmed 3,000 acres. They raised big crops, and he hauled his barley to Sunnyside six miles east of Fresno and sold it for eleven dollars a ton. He also stored barley in the Kutner warehouses, and sold the same for ten dollars a ton in 1896, and thus he continued farming until 1905.

Then he bought his present place of 160 acres at Barstow, to which he moved in 1907. It was the usual stubble field, but he set to work energetically; leveled it, checked it off, and planted 120 acres to alfalfa, and he set out seven acres as an orchard and thirty-two acres as a vineyard with muscat and Thompson vines. He also engaged in the dairy business, and stocked his ranch with thirty milch cows of the finest Holstein breed. He built a residence, substantial barns and out-buildings.

It is in connection with the founding of Barstow that Mr. Anthony deserves special mention. When the school-house was built he donated two acres of the land, and he early put up a store building there which he leases.

He built a blacksmith shop and a garage, and gave the site for the United Presbyterian Church; and in every way possible he encouraged the establishing, developing and beautifying of the place. He was not only a school trustee there for seven years, but he made the community a present of the site of Barstow Hall, which was erected by the people. He took a live interest in the affairs of the Hall Association, and for many years was its director.

A Republican in national politics, Mr. Anthony has long been prominent in public affairs. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, the California Peach Growers, Inc., the California Prune and Apricot Association, and the Fresno County Dairymen's Association; and he is a trustee of the Fraternal Brotherhood.

At Healdsburg, Mr. Anthony was married May 8, 1901, to Miss Rosa Moes, a native of Cary, Ohio, a daughter of Lawrence and Elizabeth (Legill) Moes born in Paris, France, who came to Ohio and then to Minnesota. In 1887 they came to Fresno, Cal., but later to Sonoma County. Her father is dead but he is survived by his widow. Mrs. Anthony was educated principally in the schools of Fresno County. Mr. and Mrs. Anthony have four children: Gladys, Clara, Alice and Violet. The hospitality of the Anthony household is proverbial, and parents and children alike participate actively in the social life of the neighborhood.

JOHN M. QUALLS.—The honor of being a descendant of one of the old pioneers, as well as that of having been born in California, belongs to Sanger's popular postmaster, John M. Qualls, who was born in Ventura County, Cal., May 10, 1872.

He is the son of Nicholas Qualls, a native of the Old Dominion, and Ann (Fahey) Qualls, who was born in the Emerald Isle. The father, Nicholas, removed from Virginia to Missouri in early days when the latter state was one of the frontier states of the West, and in 1850, lured by California's treasure of gold, wended his way still further westward across the plains that intervened between that fair land of promise and his Missouri home. Three years were spent in the gold mines of California before the elder Qualls again returned to Missouri, where he remained for the succeeding thirteen years ere he again crossed the plains with ox teams in 1867 and located in Ventura County, Cal., engaging in the bean-raising industry for the next two years, and being one of the pioneer bean-raisers there. He then located in Fresno County and ranched and raised sheep seven miles north of Sanger on the Academy Road. In the early eighties he sold this ranch and moved to a ranch three miles north of Sanger, now known as the Karren ranch. Here he purchased 320 acres of land for \$1,200—in those days land was cheap. This he sold later for thirty dollars per acre. He afterwards owned a ranch of 480 acres, two miles north and one-half mile west of Sanger, part of which he planted to vines. His death occurred in November, 1906, and Mrs. Qualls died on May 13, 1919. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church and held the office of school trustee of the Fairview district. His widow was his second wife, and he was the father of eleven children by the two marriages, namely: James M., of Seattle; William B., of the state of Washington; Mrs. W. J. Bonnifield, of Salinas, Cal., children by the first marriage. Edward, a rancher of Clarks Valley, Fresno County; Mrs. F. T. Eaton, of Williams, Cal.; Mary E., single, of Sanger; John M., postmaster at Sanger; Daniel B., deceased; Mrs. Frank Perry, of Sanger; Robert; and Maude, a teacher in the Fresno schools, children by the second marriage.

John M. attended the public schools in Sanger and completed his education in a business college at Stockton, and was with his father on the ranch until twenty-five years of age. He then started farming on a forty-acre ranch deeded him by his father, in the Fairview district. His ranch was finely improved and planted to Thompson seedless, Malaga and Muscat vines and peaches, with a border of fig trees, all of which he developed himself. This he sold in April, 1919.



John M. Inall

For four years he was field deputy for County Assessor Cummings. In politics he is a Democrat. An active worker for his party, he worked in the interests of the Democratic Central Committee and was indorsed by that body for postmaster of Sanger. He was appointed by President Wilson and took office in July, 1913. He has made a very competent official, conducting his office in a business-like manner, and has many friends.

John M. Qualls was united in marriage, on July 3, 1915, with Miss Elsie Tippet, a native of California and a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Jones) Tippet, the latter also a native daughter of the Golden State. Mrs. Qualls was a teacher in the grammar schools in Sanger prior to her marriage. Mr. Qualls is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; has served as a member of the board of Fairview school district; and also served on the election board of that district. He was a member of the first cooperative raisin-growers association and still has stock in the California Associated Raisin Company, also in the California Peach Growers, Inc. He is public-spirited, and much interested in the future possibilities of Fresno County, and is held in high esteem by all who have the pleasure of his acquaintance.

MRS. MARY E. HENDERSON.—A native daughter of the Golden West, who has many friends who appreciate her character and high ideals, is Mrs. Mary E. Henderson, the oldest daughter of the late Jasper Newton Musick. She was reared on the old Musick ranch, in the happy and generous environment typical of "the good old California days," and educated at the Academy School, long one of the best-conducted institutions of its scope in the State, under the able guidance of Prof. J. D. Collins.

On June 23, 1887, in the great boom year of California when the Pacific Coast began to look up at the dawn of a new era, Miss Musick was married to William H. Henderson, a native of Kansas who came to Fresno when a young man and engaged in the mercantile business on Pine Ridge. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Henderson continued in business there for a few years, and then, selling out, they purchased land at Dinuba, which they improved and made into a fine vineyard and orchard.

Selling out again, they came to Fresno, in which city Mr. Henderson entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad; and with that company he continued until his health failed, and he had to give up his position. In the prime of life, he passed away on February 11, 1911.

Four children blessed their union—one of whom, the third in the order of birth, Lloyd, died at the age of fourteen. Pearl, Mrs. Dow, resides with her mother; William E. is a musician in Fresno; and Ethel has become Mrs. Johns, of the same city.

Mrs. Henderson makes her home at her old residence on Inez Street where she is the center of an admiring circle. She is the administrator of the old Musick ranch of 800 acres, her father's property, owned by her and her sisters, which they lease for a stock ranch. She attends the Grace Methodist Episcopal Church.

WILLIAM LUMLEY DAWSON.—A well-posted horticulturist and viticulturist who is successfully discharging the double responsibility of operating both his father's ranch and his own, is William Lumley Dawson, who was born in Arena, Iowa County, Wis., on July 6, 1872, since which time he has been familiarly known to his many friends as Lumley. His grandfather, William Dawson, came from Yorkshire, England, and was a pioneer of 1845. He was a farmer and later served in the Union Army, where he was the head bugler in his regiment. He fought well, and yielded his life during service in defence of his adopted country. He had a son, John A. Dawson, and he became the father of the subject of this sketch. William L. was born in the same house as was his father, and reared in Wisconsin until the fall of 1891, when he left for California. In the spring of the following year, he came to

Fresno County, and with this section his steady progress as rancher and citizen has ever since been identified.

While attending school as a lad in Wisconsin, he had served his apprenticeship at farming, and very naturally he gravitated toward the same activity here. He bought twenty acres of land from the Vincent tract, which he set out as a vineyard. He adapted himself to the new problems, and in a short time had something worth seeing to show for his labor. The ranch is located three miles southeast of Clovis and upon it he has built himself a fine residence, and set out a small orchard. He is also leasing his father's place of forty-five acres, which he runs as a vineyard and a peach orchard.

Mr. Dawson is also owner with his father and manager of eighty acres one and a half miles east of his place, and there they are raising hay. The son divides his time between the two undertakings; but he never neglects the interests of the California Associated Raisin Company of which he is a member.

In the Garfield district, Mr. Dawson was married on November 16, 1899, to Miss Edna Parkes, a native of Salida, Stanislaus County, and the daughter of B. F. Parkes, the well-known California pioneer born in Burlington, Iowa, 1841. About 1861 B. F. Parkes braved the dangers and bore the hardships of a trip across the plains. He was married at Salida to Elizabeth Elmore who was born in Missouri and he farmed at Salida, then located in Garfield district, Fresno County. Mr. and Mrs. Parkes now reside west of Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Dawson have one daughter, Alma, who has become a general favorite. Mrs. Dawson has long been active in religious work, particularly in circles of the Presbyterian Church; but the attitude of both her husband and herself toward moving questions of the day is well known to all. Identified as they are with the pioneer history of the state, they are strong advocates of preserving such records where posterity may read and learn.

HANS J. JORGENSEN.—Two important facts are illustrated in the life-story of Hans J. Jorgensen, who died in the fall of 1916, widely lamented because of his sterling character and his successful and most useful career. The one is that no man should neglect to provide for the rainy day which may overtake his family if not himself, and that it is the part of highest wisdom to do what Mr. Jorgensen did—acquire something of value and put it in that shape that others may find it serviceable. The other suggestive fact is the desirability of every housewife who is the companion of a practical man becoming experienced and practical also, and so being able, as Mrs. Jorgensen has proven herself to be, to take charge of an estate, maintain it at a high standard, and in the end realize even more than was formerly obtained through the investment and its working.

Born in Fyen, Denmark, on December 24, 1865, the son of Peter Jorgensen, a business man of Melleinhagen noted for his sagacity and sense of honor, Hans was educated in the excellent public schools of his country, and arriving at manhood, served his full time in the Danish army. In Denmark, too, on April 3, 1888, he was married to Miss Anna K. Hansen, a native of Horslev, Fyen, Denmark, and the daughter of Jorgen and Marie (Jensen) Hansen. Her father was a brick manufacturer who did service in the Danish-German War of 1864-66, and who came to California, about May, 1892. The next year he died, survived by Mrs. Hansen, who made her home with her daughter, Mrs. Jorgensen, until her death December 19, 1918, almost eighty-one years old. Of her children three boys and three girls grew up, although but one boy and two girls are now living.

Having come to America and Michigan, Mr. and Mrs. Jorgensen located at Jackson, in May, 1888, and there they remained until the following August, when they moved west to California and chose Fresno for their home. Their decision was due to the presence here of one of Mrs. Jorgensen's brothers, who assisted Mr. Jorgensen to make such connections that he easily entered

the vineyard business. He bought twenty acres in Wolter's Colony and at once improved it so that he might grow vines and have an orchard of pears and peaches; and in the exploitation of that property he was engaged for ten years. During this time he was also in the employ of the Fresno Flume and Lumber Company, and it was then that his devoted and practical wife showed her ability by running the ranch in her husband's absence. He was really in the service of the aforesaid company nineteen years, and in that long period Mrs. Jorgensen acquired an experience and knowledge of the greatest possible value, while her husband demonstrated his fitness in filling the post of tallyman for the company.

After selling the Wolters Colony place Mr. Jorgensen bought the property now owned by his widow, twenty acres in the Helm Colony, three miles southwest of Clovis, and there he built a fine residence and serviceable buildings, adding much to the worth of the home-place. Mrs. Jorgensen superintended the setting out of the malaga, Thompson and zinfandel vines. She is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Five children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Jorgensen, and all have done well in their start in life. Marie, Julia and Laura are all graduates of Heald's Business College at Fresno, and all are engaged in Fresno as stenographers; while Ellen and Clarence are at home.

On September 2, 1916, Mr. Jorgensen died, in the fifty-first year of his age, a consistent Lutheran, as is also his faithful companion. Since then Mrs. Jorgensen has continued to manage the vineyard, and with marked business ability she has made it more than ever an excellent producer. Mrs. Jorgensen does not confine herself, however, to business affairs; but she takes a proper leadership in the ladies' society of the Dania, and never neglects an opportunity to do her full duty as a patriot in supporting every civic endeavor worthy of endorsement.

BARZILLA E. HUTCHINSON.—A highly interesting pioneer who came to Central California in the middle eighties and had such wonderful success in horticulture that he soon became famous as "The Peach King," receiving wide recognition and various awards for his superior products, is Barzilla E. Hutchinson, who was born near Cleveland, Ohio, on June 19, 1836, where he attended the country schools. When he was thirteen years of age, his parents moved to Lafayette, Ind., in which place his father established a large market garden; and while working there, Barzilla continued to attend school. After that the Hutchinsons went to Mishawka, Ind., and from there Barzilla moved to Big Rapids, Mich., and in that town for twelve years carried on a furniture and merchandise store with a Mr. Van Lew as partner. During his residence in Mecosta County, Mich., he served for five years as under-sheriff, and he was the first city marshal of Big Rapids. He was appointed a charter member of Big Rapids Lodge of Masons, and he is now the only living charter member of that organization.

After living in Iowa for a year, Mr. Hutchinson came to Fresno County, in 1884, and took charge of "The Iowa Loan and Trust Co.," who owned a half-section of land near Fowler. He developed that property, set out a vineyard and orchard, and began to buy land, acquiring by degrees until he owned 160 acres. He was in time known as "The Peach King," and raised the largest fruit in the State. He holds the record for raising the largest crop of peaches and the largest peaches in size on a given piece of land in all California. Some of the peaches, for example, sent to Chicago for exhibition weighed one pound each. He furnished the Fresno Chamber of Commerce with exhibits of fruit and especially with grapes, although he raised oranges, lemons, prunes and plums, as well as table grapes. Rather naturally, he became a director and stockholder in the Fresno Fruit Growers Company, and shipped through them; and such were their relations on both sides that, during all the years of their dealings, there was never a word of dissatisfaction.

After living on his ranch near Fowler for over thirty years, he sold out his interests and took up his residence at 1435 N Street, Fresno, on April 6, 1917. His first wife died, after two sons had been born to them: Charles C. Hutchinson, who is with the Santa Fe Railway, and William Hutchinson, now deceased. His second marriage occurred on October 10, 1896, the ceremony taking place on his ranch near Fowler, when he was united to a widow, Mrs. M. L. Van Lew, a native of Pennsylvania; her husband had been Mr. Hutchinson's partner in the furniture business at Big Rapids, and in that way they had become acquainted. She took a very active part in the affairs of Big Rapids, and for seven years she was under-sheriff (without pay) in the benevolent department, doing good work. She came to Michigan in pioneer days, and was an active member of the First Methodist Church, and sang in its choir. While in Fowler she was also one of the live members in the women's club, "The Fowler Improvement Society."

In former years Mrs. Hutchinson invested largely in ranch land in Fowler, and at one time owned five fruit ranches totalling over three hundred acres. These were her own, and fortunate speculations; but she has recently disposed of her holdings, and being a good business woman, has done so to advantage. Her son, Kingsley Van Lew, is a resident of Oakland and was for a number of years a prominent fruit grower on his ranch of 100 acres near Malaga, Fresno County. Mr. Hutchinson, by-the-way, was at one time superintendent of the Briggs Canal Company, a position of responsibility in which he was well able to show both his initiative and his power to develop on rational lines.

In 1913 in Los Angeles Mr. Hutchinson fell from a street car, while in the act of getting on. His spine was injured and he grew worse and worse and never was a well man afterwards. He died at Livermore, May 11, 1919, and was buried in the Cypress Lawn Cemetery beside his wife and oldest son.

H. E. NORTON.—A successful farmer, operating according to the latest scientific methods, and an able business man evidencing a good knowledge of the world and every-day life, is H. E. Norton, who came to California in January, 1893. He was born at Twinsburg, Summit County, Ohio, November 8, 1871, and his father, N. N. Norton, was born in the same place in 1844, and so was the grandfather, Horace Norton, who was a farmer there, while N. N. Norton became a wheelwright. During the Civil War he served in the transportation department, and after that went in for farming. In 1878 he removed to Schoolcraft, Kalamazoo County, Mich., where he engaged in the hardware and implement business, but in 1895 he sold out and located in Fresno County, Cal. He took up viticulture and had a vineyard of sixty acres on White's Bridge Road and Johnson Avenue; and there he died, in December, 1911, aged sixty-seven years. He had married Mary Cox, a native of Ohio, and she passed away in June, 1912, at the old home here, the mother of four children. Alta, now Mrs. Frank W. Stuart, resides in Schoolcraft, and Alma, her twin-sister, lives in Fresno; Herman Earl is the subject of this review; and Bernice is Mrs. W. S. Hinch of Fresno.

Brought up in Michigan, H. E. attended the public schools at Schoolcraft and also the excellent high school there, from which he was graduated in 1890, when he entered the Michigan Agricultural College at Lansing. At the end of the year, he engaged in teaching, but soon after came west to California. In January, 1893, he located in Fresno.

When he bought his first land, he secured twenty acres on White's Bridge Road, which he improved and farmed for six years; and he also leased lands and vineyards, and engaged in the raising of grain and grapes. In 1899 he entered the employ of the Pierce Lumber Company, for whom he



N. V. Peterson

acted as officeman and bookkeeper; but in 1902 he resigned and entered into partnership with Mr. Pierce in the purchase of a saw mill, forming the Peck-inpah Lumber Company at North Fork, Madera County, and manufactured lumber, which was hauled to Friant and shipped to Fresno.

In 1907 Mr. Norton sold his interest to the Pierce Lumber Company, to engage in ranching; and having leased a ranch of 1,080 acres for two years, he undertook the raising of grain, in which he was very successful. He became interested in a tract which was called Tuttle's Colony, developed water, put in a pumping plant, subdivided the land and sold it in small parcels. It is now devoted mostly to the growing of figs and peaches.

In 1910 Mr. Norton moved back to Fresno County, and soon after he purchased his present place of eighty acres on Kearney Avenue, ten miles west of Fresno, which he has improved to alfalfa and peaches. He also has charge for his sister, of the old home ranch. His long experience has given him an enviable position among other successful ranchers, and with them he has great faith in the future of Fresno County.

Mr. Norton was married in Fresno to Miss May Pierce, a native of Iowa and the daughter of the late C. S. Pierce of the Pierce Lumber Company. She was reared and educated here, and has reared and helped educate six of her own children—Mary Ellen, Charles N., Jack Earl, Robert Pierce, James D. and Blanche Elizabeth.

A Republican in matters of national import, Mr. Norton has shown his public spirit by serving as trustee of the Dunkard school district. He is ruling elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Fresno, which he and his family attend.

C. V. PETERSON.—Among the large number of self-made men in Fresno County, few hold a higher place in the estimation of their fellowmen than C. V. Peterson, usually called "Vic" Peterson, the rancher and vice-president of the First National Bank of Fowler. He was born in Sweden, the son of P. G. and Margaret Peterson, who immigrated to California and settled one and a half miles west of Fowler where they bought land which they immediately began to improve. C. V. Peterson was then barely eighteen and he went to work, in a portion of the county which was then devoted to grain. Having helped his parents plant their holdings, he became actively engaged in developing and setting out vineyards for others. In this way, he met Judge Stephen G. Nye of San Francisco, and J. B. Eliot, at that time the business manager of the Chronicle, both owning large vineyards near Fowler. He helped to set out the Nye Vineyard and continued to look after that property for Judge Nye for fourteen years, and was an equally trusted employee of Mr. Eliot during the same period.

When C. V. Peterson first came to Fresno there was not a paved street in the city, while the farming land was mainly devoted to grain. By nature he was well-qualified for the arduous task of establishing a home in a new and untried environment.

The parents are now both deceased, but are remembered at Fowler as generous, kind-hearted folks, who worked unremittingly for the welfare of their children and community, and who, as consistent Christians, made no effort to become wealthy, regarding life and good character as above the so-called "Almighty Dollar." They encouraged all their children to start in business for themselves even before reaching their majority; and when they laid down the responsibilities of life—the father died in 1911, at the age of seventy,—and the mother in 1916, when seventy-three years old, after she had continued, as the sole owner according to her husband's wish, to manage their modest estate—she had the great satisfaction of seeing her children well-established and living the lives of useful and honorable citizens.

When he was able, C. V. Peterson bought in 1889, a piece of raw land situated west of Fowler. He soon had it planted to muscats and peaches

and thereby he became one of the pioneers in the fruit and raisin industry at Fowler. In 1905, he bought his present home ranch situated one and a half miles south and east of Fowler, upon which he resides and in 1906 he began improving it to orchard and vineyard. He has continued to improve it by constructing ditches for irrigation, digging wells, installing pumping-plants and planting nut-trees on the outside.

In the important work of building a home, Mr. Peterson has been ably assisted by his wife, who was formerly Miss Elsie May Pond, of Fresno, and a daughter of Thomas Pond, one of the well-known residents of that city. Mr. and Mrs. Peterson have five children: Evelyn M., Victor Delmas, John Darwin, Thomas Sherman and Luis M. They all attend the Presbyterian Church at Fowler, of which they are members.

Mr. Peterson has become a principal stockholder of the First National Bank of Fowler, and while interested in the success of said institution, and serving as its vice-president, his greatest attachments are for his home and the proper cultivation of his ranch. He delights in the growth and prosperity of his district, and is ever ready to contribute in every way to the advancement of the viticultural and horticultural interests here. One of the results of his hard work is a healthy progressive spirit, which leads him to look far ahead and makes him aggressive, as well as wisely conservative, in all that he undertakes.

Mr. Peterson gives due credit to his talented wife for his success and prosperity. In 1918 they built a fine country residence of brick and concrete, in architectural beauty expressing the well-considered ideas of Mr. and Mrs. Peterson,—ideas further evolved and materialized by E. W. Peterson, architect and builder of Fresno. The "Vic" Peterson home is one of the handsomest, as it certainly is one of the best and most hospitable in Fresno County.

Mr. and Mrs. Peterson are active and industrious, self-reliant and original in their ways. Selfishness is kept in restraint, while the helping-hand, actuated by a real desire to assist and uplift is ever-extended. They are especially interested in the boys and girls. For more than ten years, Mr. Peterson has given his best efforts to the up-building of the Fowler schools. He is serving on the grammar school and high school boards, being chairman of the latter. He is chairman of the Y. M. C. A. at Fowler and also chairman of the board of trustees of the Presbyterian Church. He can be found in every good work, and wields a very positive influence for good.

He stands uncompromisingly for a dry and decent town and during the World War served as Home Civilian in Red Cross work and took an active part in each of the Liberty and Victory Loan drives.

LYLE H. SAY.—A popular citizen of Fresno County, and one who may feel a natural pride in his association with a pioneer family, is Lyle H. Say, son of William Henry Say and grandson of the late James H. Say, both of whom are referred to in greater detail elsewhere in this work. Thus it has developed that the history of the Say family has been very closely interwoven with the progress of Selma.

Lyle Say was born on December 7, 1893, grew up on his father's ranch, and in 1899, when six years old, accompanied his mother by the way of the White Pass to the Klondike, where his father was then interested in mining, with Clarence Berry and other Selma and California young men. He stayed in the Klondike fourteen months, and then came back to Selma, where he began to attend the Selma grammar school. Having pursued the courses of study at the Selma High School, he was graduated with the Class of '13, and then he spent three months at the Agricultural School of the University of California at Davis.

In January, 1914, he started to ranch, taking charge of one of his father's farms; but when the call for volunteers came on August 15, 1917, he was

among the first to enlist in the Naval Reserve. He was sent to San Pedro and assigned to the Light House tender "Sequoia," and later was transferred to Mare Island, where he entered the mechanical school for machinists. On August 23, 1918, he was placed in the regular submarine service, and in the following October he was assigned to duty. He remained stationed at San Pedro until February 1, 1919, when he was released subject to call.

Mr. Say was married on June 3, 1914, to Miss Ethel M., daughter of Frank H. Stoker, of Parlier, whose sketch is to be found on another page in this history. She has proven a valuable helpmate who has taken an active part with her husband in war activities and in the purchase of liberty and victory bonds. Mr. Say is a member of the Odd Fellows, in which order he is a past noble grand, and is at present the Senior Warden in the Selma Encampment. He is also past president of Selma Parlor, No. 107, N. S. G. W., and acts as its treasurer. Mr. and Mrs. Say live on a fine ranch of 160 acres, devoted to a vineyard and apricots, four miles southwest of Selma, and besides managing that place, he also cares for the extensive interests of his father.

ROBERT LOHEAD.—Freedom from ostentation combined with the sterling qualities that are characteristic of his Scotch lineage are marked characteristics of Robert Lohead, Fresno County's supervisor of the Second District. The son of James and Jean (Walker) Lohead, the former a Paisley shawl weaver, both are now deceased, Robert was born in Scotland, November 12, 1855, in the County of Ayrshire, a section of country made famous throughout the civilized world because of its association with the name of Scotland's peerless poet, "Bobby" Burns, who so aptly said: "O, wad some power the gif'tie gie us, to see oursels as ithers see us."

Robert Lohead acquired a good education in the schools of Scotland and learned the trade of wood turning in that country. As a young man of eighteen, he left home and traveled extensively, coming to the United States in 1884, and locating in Iowa, he remained there three years. In 1887 he came to California, and attracted by the possibilities of Fresno's future, located here, and worked in the planing mills. In 1908, with others, he established the Fresno Planing Mill Company, of which he was president until March, 1916, when he disposed of his interest in the plant. In November, 1916, he was elected county supervisor from the Second District and is discharging his official duties with his usual efficiency.

He established domestic ties by his marriage, December 31, 1890, with Miss Carrie Fisher, and they have two children, son and daughter, James and Inez. In politics Mr. Lohead affiliates with the Republican party and fraternally he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World. He has served as a school trustee in Fresno and is a member of the Commercial Club and the Chamber of Commerce.

A. R. KERSTETTER.—As manager of the Grant Rock and Gravel Company, with plants located at Friant, Fresno County, and Visalia, Tulare County, A. R. Kerstetter, who was born at Elkhart, Ind., in 1882, has made a name and place for himself in the world of business in California. His interests are those of the company he is representing.

Mr. Kerstetter came to California in 1912, as a representative of the Stone-Webster Company, of Boston, at Fresno, and after he had looked over the country for a time, he saw the possibilities of building up a wonderful business in his line. The Grant Rock and Gravel Company was incorporated September 20, 1915; although it had been doing business in Fresno since April of that year. Mr. Kerstetter was made secretary and manager of the new corporation.

Their plant was started at Friant in April, 1915, and when completed represented an expenditure of \$150,000, and the output of the company found ready market; in fact, such a demand for it grew that the company bought

and rebuilt another plant at Visalia, at a cost of \$75,000. Over 300,000 tons of rock was crushed by the company and disposed of in Kings, Tulare, Kern, and Merced Counties in the construction of the State Highway. They furnish rock and gravel for all kinds of building, among some of the structures for which they furnished material are the Fresno State Normal School; the Cory, Mason, Olender, and Federal buildings. On May 1, 1919, Mr. Kerstetter resigned his position and organized the Piedra Rock and Sand Company, manufacturers and dealers in crushed rock and sand, their business extending throughout the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. Kerstetter is president and manager of the company, and has offices in the Mason Building.

Mr. Kerstetter was married in Montana to Miss Katherine Walters. He is a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. Elks; the Chamber of Commerce; the Rotary and Commercial Clubs of Fresno.

R. W. EDMISTON.—A very successful rancher who has become a large landowner with a fine record for developing and improving the same, and who has contributed much toward the development of Fresno County is R. W. Edmiston, a native of Arizona, where he was born on February 2, 1864. His father was Robert Edmiston, who was born in Chilicothe, Ross County, Ohio, on January 16, 1836, and was a college graduate with a diploma for civil engineering. After working as a railroad surveyor, he crossed the plains to California in 1850, and for a time followed surveying and farming. Then he returned East and, wishing to support the Federal Government in its crisis, enlisted in the regular army and fought throughout the Civil War, attaining the rank of lieutenant. During the latter part of the war he was in the Indian campaigns, and was in charge of an Indian reservation in Arizona until about 1865, when he came to Napa County, Cal., and there established himself as a civil engineer and farmer.

In April, 1869, Mr. Edmiston came to Fresno County and almost immediately he discerned the great possibilities of the plains of Central California if only water could be taken out of the Kings River and used for irrigation. He confided his convictions to M. J. Church, whom he had known in Napa County, and advised him to build what became the Church canal system, for which Mr. Edmiston did all the early surveying.

Mr. Edmiston became the first settler on the plains in the Fairview district, first as a grain farmer, and later as a horticulturist and a viticulturist, he became a very important factor in the early development of this part of the Golden State. He spent his last days with his son, the subject of our sketch, and died on December 17, 1918. Mrs. Edmiston was Miss Anna Magee before her marriage, and she was a native of Sugar Loaf, Orange County, N. Y. She is still living at the home of her son, R. W. Edmiston, and as one of the oldest settlers who did her part, she is the recipient of the esteem and good will of all who know her. A daughter, Mrs. Anna A. Barr of Fresno, is the other child.

R. W. Edmiston came to Fresno in 1869, although he had come to California with his parents four years before. He was educated at the public schools, and also at the San Jose State Normal, from which he was graduated in 1884, and he finished with a course at the San Jose Business College, where he was graduated in 1886. After that he returned to Fresno, took up farming with his father, making a specialty of fruit raising, and remained at home until he was twenty-three years of age.

Striking out for himself, Mr. Edmiston was a foreman in charge of several large ranches; and then he bought a ranch near Academy. Selling that, he bought in Kutner's Colony, then in Auberry Valley, next in Round Mountain and later in the Clovis district. He has been so active in the successful manipulation of various properties that he has improved seventeen different ranches, and has owned besides about fifteen others that had already been improved. Among these was an orchard and vineyard in Round Mountain that was a particularly attractive place. He has owned places not only



C. A. Gancey



Mrs. D. A. Gancey

in Fresno County, but also in Merced, Madera, Tulare, and Kern Counties, and from January to September, 1919, he bought and sold four different ranches. He has title to a ranch of 320 acres in Madera County that he intends to set out to malagas and Thompson seedless grapes. He is now making his residence on his California Avenue vineyard three miles west of Fresno, and it is his desire to improve his 320 acres so as to have it set out to trees and vines. Mr. Edmiston is also active in establishing an irrigation district in Madera County, to take the water from the San Joaquin River by damming the river and so conserving the overflow.

At Round Mountain in 1908, Mr. Edmiston was married to Miss Mattie Bacon, a native of Tonganoxie, Kans., by whom he has had four children: Margery Alice, Ida Amelia, Robert Roosevelt and James Oscar Edmiston. He believes in cooperation for fruit men, and is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.; he has never sued anyone, nor has he himself been sued. In national politics, Mr. Edmiston is a Progressive Republican, but he is non-partisan in matters of local import, and has found pleasure in serving as a trustee of the schools in every district where he has been a resident, and believes in physical, as well as mental education. Fraternally, he is a Woodman of the World.

Mr. Edmiston believes in the future of the great San Joaquin Valley lands and takes pleasure in producing crops to aid in the maintenance of the peoples of the world. He believes that parents should so shape their affairs as to give their children encouragement and inducement to stay at home on the ranch; he does not believe they should wait until they are of age to be given, or promised a piece of land, but as soon as they can understand and appreciate it, they should be given every encouragement in order that they may become better men and women.

MRS. AMERICA FRANCES YANCEY.—That women have made a positive success in practically every field of life, and even in those undertakings requiring capacity and experience for which men used to be regarded as alone equipped, is demonstrated in such a story as that of Mrs. America Frances Yancey, long identified with one of the well-known hostelries of California. She is the daughter of Judge Gillum Baley, a native of Illinois, where he was born not far from Springfield, on June 19, 1813. He died in November, 1895. Her mother was Permelia Eleanor Meyers before her marriage, and she was born in West Tennessee on June 22, 1819. Their marriage took place in Missouri, and in that State, before he came West to California, Mr. Baley was engaged in farming and stock-raising. He was also judge there for a couple of years; and the reader will recall that Missouri court decisions in those days generally meant a short-cut to justice.

In 1849 her father crossed the great plains with two of his brothers, and at once went to mining, continuing in that hazardous enterprise until 1851, when he returned to Missouri. After seven years more in the Iron State, he started again to cross the continent hoping once more to enjoy the good things of this promised land. He started in a caravan of ox teams, but when the party reached the Colorado River, they were robbed by the Indians. He therefore put back to Albuquerque, N. M., and remained there ten months. A new mule-team party was later made up and, joining it, Mr. Baley came to California by way of Yuma.

In December, 1860, he reached Visalia, and soon came on to Fort Miller in Fresno County. He located at the town of Millerton, and again tried his luck at mining—this time along the San Joaquin River. He followed mining up to 1866, when he was elected County Judge, and that high office he held for twelve years, serving the last term in Fresno where both he and his wife passed away. He was also County Treasurer for a couple of years. At one time he bought a grocery store, but in the spring of 1898 he sold it again. In

the same town he ran a boarding house for a number of years, Mrs. Baley being an experienced housewife and manager.

Mrs. Yancey was born in Platte County, Mo., on September 30, 1840, and came with her parents to California and Fresno County; and while en route to California she was married in New Mexico, on September 9, 1859, to August Block, a native of Nockel, Prussian Poland, who was journeying to California with the Judge Baley train. Mr. Block died on March 15, 1864, having followed farming until his death, leaving two children: Minnie, who married Thomas Dean, and died in San Francisco; and William, who makes his home with Mrs. Yancey.

Later, in July, 1865, Mrs. Block married Charles Abraham Yancey, a native of Virginia who came to California in 1854 and followed mining and teaming, continuing in that line until 1868. The first of August in that year, Mr. and Mrs. Yancey opened the Toll House, the first hotel in that section; and while managing that he also engaged in farming and stock-raising. Mr. Yancey passed away on July 23, 1911, and the responsibilities he had cheerfully borne then devolved upon the brave woman who had been so truly a helpmate. Like Mr. Block and, indeed like Mr. Baley, Mr. Yancey left behind him an enviable record as citizen, neighbor and husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Yancey, through their generosity and kindness, endeared themselves to every one and were familiarly known as Uncle Abe and Aunt Frank, and to this day Mrs. Yancey is addressed as Aunt Frank. By her marriage to Mr. Yancey she had two children: Mrs. Virginia E. Mills, who, with her husband, now runs the Toll House; and Max H., engaged in general merchandising at Tollhouse.

Since her husband's death, Mrs. Yancey continues to live at Tollhouse, having turned the management of the hotel over to her daughter, Mrs. Virginia Mills. Aside from her Tollhouse ranch of over 700 acres, she with Mrs. Mills and her nephew, Robert M. Johnson, own the Johnson ranch of 1,000 acres in the Pine Ridge School district, which is well watered and wooded and an ideal ranch for stock-raising, and on this place Mrs. Yancey enjoys spending her summers. She is an old-timer, and it is interesting to hear her tell of early-day events.

N. P. NIELSEN.—To the permanent settlement of California, the citizenship of European countries has made heavy contributions, especially is this true of Denmark.

N. P. Nielsen, the subject of this sketch first saw the light of day near Viborg, Jutland, Denmark, on July 28, 1872, his parents being P. C. and Hannah Nielsen, also natives of Denmark, and whose family consisted of eight children, six of whom are living, two being residents of Fresno County: N. P., and his brother P. C. His parents were farmers, the father being deceased, while his widow is still living. N. P. Nielsen was reared to a farmer's life, receiving a good education in the public schools. Having completed the local schools he learned the grocery business at Sparkar, continuing for a period of five years when, having decided to come to California, he quit and made his way, arriving at Fresno on September 1, 1891. Here he worked in both vineyard and orchard and soon learned the art of viticulture and horticulture and then became superintendent of ranches which he followed for three years, and then he purchased twenty acres which he improved and sold in 1904.

Mr. Nielsen then bought his present forty-acre ranch on which he has lived since 1904; at that time it was unimproved, but today it is a highly cultivated and productive ranch, improved with appropriate buildings and is devoted to raising grapes that yield on an average one and one-half tons of raisins per acre of malaga, Thompsons and muscats as well as peaches and oranges. Mr. Nielsen is an enterprising rancher and by hard work, persistency of purpose, thrifty habits and a definite aim, he has surmounted difficulties and gained substantial success.



J. H. Erskine

In 1900, Mr. N. P. Nielsen took a trip to his native land which proved a pleasant respite after years of hard toil in his adopted country. His vacation lasted a year and the most pleasant remembrance of it was the winning of the affections of Miss Katie Andersen, born in Copenhagen, who immigrated to the United States the following year and became his wife in 1902.

Of this happy union two sons were born: Earl C. and Carl J. June 16, 1914, Mr. Nielsen was bereft of his loving companion and the children of a devoted mother.

Fraternally, N. P. Nielsen is a member of the Danish Brotherhood, and is highly respected by a large circle of friends in his community.

P. C. Nielsen is also a native of Denmark, where he was born in 1877, and came to California in 1901. In the year 1904 he was united in marriage with Miss Metha M. Sorensen, a native of Schlesvig, who immigrated to the United States in 1902. One daughter, Allie has come to bless and brighten the home circle of Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Nielsen.

N. P. Nielsen has always supported all cooperative movements of the fruitmen and is a member and stockholder of the California Associated Raisin Company and California Peach Growers, Inc. He is a trustee of the Fairview school district.

OLEN LEE EVERTS.—The Everts family, represented in Fresno by Olen Lee Everts, a prominent attorney, was a distinguished one of New England. The first of the name to seek a new location was Gustavus Everts, Sr., who came as far west as Indiana, settling at La Porte, where he followed farming. He was also a resident of Ohio for a time, and in that state his son, Gustavus A., the father of Olen Lee, was born. Gustavus A. settled in Putnam County, Ill., in young manhood, and was engaged in farming until his removal to La Porte, Ind., where he continued the same calling. In 1884 he removed to California, and at Fresno engaged in the real estate business until a year before he died, in 1897, at the age of sixty-three years. He was a Mason and politically adhered to the policies of the Democratic party, in whose interests he served one term as public administrator of Fresno County. His wife, formerly Rena Newport, was born in Bureau County, Ill., the daughter of P. N. Newport, an extensive farmer and large landowner of that county. Mrs. Everts died in Illinois early in life.

The only child of his parents, Olen Lee Everts was born in Putnam County, Ill., February 11, 1870, and, after the death of his mother, went to Kewanee, Ill., where he made his home with an aunt, Mrs. H. E. Woodruff. He attended the public schools and in time was graduated from the Kewanee high school. In 1887 he came to Fresno County, Cal., and was engaged in the real estate business with his father. Before he came west, Mr. Everts had read law during his vacations and the desire to make that profession his life-work was so strong that in 1889 he returned east, and became a student in the law department of the University of Michigan, two years later graduating with the degree of LL.D. The year previous he had been admitted to the bar of Michigan. During his college life he was a member of the Phi Delta Phi fraternity. Upon his return to California, Mr. Everts was admitted to the bar of the Golden State and at once opened offices in the First National Bank Building at Fresno and ever since then has practiced law in this city. In 1893 he formed a partnership with David S. Ewing, the firm being known then as Everts & Ewing, the same as it is today, and as such has won distinction at the bar of the state, and a place among the prominent attorneys of Fresno; it is one of the earliest established law firms in the San Joaquin Valley.

A Democrat in his political convictions, Mr. Everts was elected to the office of District Attorney of Fresno County in 1898, he took the oath of office the following January and served until January, 1903. During his term in this important position more than 500 criminal cases in the superior court of the county, many of them bitterly contested, were handled by his office,

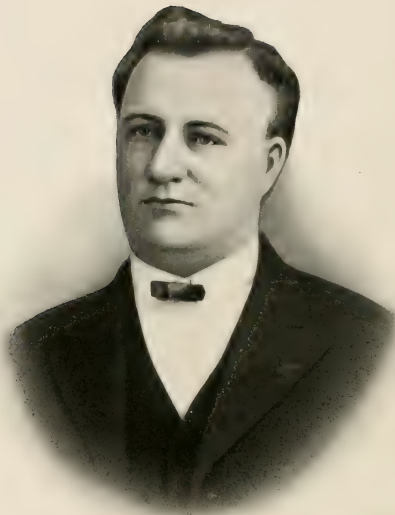
and the court records, showing the percentage of convictions in the number of cases tried, bespeak the ability and energy displayed by Mr. Everts in the interests of the people. The discharge of his duties was so efficient that he won the commendation of the citizens of Fresno County, regardless of party affiliations. Mr. Everts thereupon resumed his practice with his partner, Mr. Ewing. For three successive terms, he has, with his partner, represented the public administrator of Fresno County. This enterprising firm is attorney for various banking institutions in the San Joaquin Valley, and for other corporations of like character. A great deal of oil litigation also has been handled by this firm.

The law firm of Everts & Ewing easily ranks as one of the foremost in the San Joaquin Valley. In the case of Zibbell vs. the Southern Pacific Railway Company, they secured a verdict for \$100,000 damages, the largest amount ever recovered for personal injuries anywhere. This verdict was settled for \$92,745.65 on the 24th of July, 1911. Mr. Everts has conducted defenses in many noted murder cases, among these the case of People vs. Orlean Howe, which attracted nation-wide attention. While this firm numbers among its clients many banking, oil, and other large corporations, it does a general law-business, and the individual client obtains the advantage of its long and successful experience in legal matters, as well as the careful personal attention of the members of the firm.

In Kewanee, Ill., Mr. Everts was united in marriage, on November 1, 1892, with Flora Maul, a daughter of Frank Maul, a merchant of that city. One child has blessed this union, Frank Gustavus Everts, now a young man twenty-two years of age. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan. He had taken one year of law in the University when, in April, 1917, he volunteered for the United States Army, and received a commission as First Lieutenant in Company C, 145th Machine Gun Battalion of the Fortieth Division, and while in France received his Captaincy of that Company, and at this time is still serving in France.

Fraternally O. L. Everts is a Mason, having been made a Mason in Kewanee Lodge, No. 159, A. F. & A. M.; he belongs to Trigo Chapter, No. 69, R. A. M., having served as High Priest, and also belongs to Fresno Commandery, No. 29, K. T.; Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S.; and is also a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F., the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Independent Order of Foresters. As an enterprising and liberal citizen, Mr. Everts takes a most active interest in all that tends to promote the general welfare of the people and county. He is a member of the Commercial, Sequoia, University, and Country Clubs, also of the Chamber of Commerce, and of the County and State Bar Associations.

JOHN HENRY BURNETT.—An esteemed citizen of Fresno who has made his influence felt in manufacturing circles of the state, is John Henry Burnett, owner and proprietor of the Burnett Iron Works, the largest foundry and structural steel plant in the San Joaquin Valley. He was born at Hellston, Cornwall, England, December 10, 1859, a son of Evan Burnett, a native of Truro, England. His grandfather, Evan Burnett, was a native of Wales and an iron moulder by trade, being engaged in that business at Truro. John Henry's father, also named Evan Burnett, was engaged in the foundry business at Truro, and later at Hellston. He came to the United States in 1867, and for three years followed his trade in Chicago, then came to California in 1870 and was engaged with the Union Iron Works at San Francisco for several years. He died at his home in Alameda at the age of seventy-six years. His wife, formerly Catherine Rule, was a native of Red Ruth, England, a daughter of Captain Jack Rule, who was superintendent of the gas plant at Red Ruth, where his death occurred. Mrs. Burnett died in Alameda on January 25, 1905, aged eighty-five years. There were fifteen children born of this union, eight of whom reached their majority, and three boys and one girl are living as follows: Mrs. J. J. Atkins of Alameda; Evan, proprietor



J. A. Burnett



Anna L. Burnett

their four children, but two grew up: Mrs. J. A. Darby of Stockton, who had two sons in the World War; and Mrs. Burnett. The latter was educated at the Academy and is well-versed in the early history of Fresno County. She is an active member of the Fresno County Pioneer Society.

Mr. and Mrs. Burnett became the parents of two daughters, Maude E., Mrs. Roy Pugh of Fresno, and the mother of a son, Jack Montgomery Pugh; and Winnifred, who died at the age of seven years.

Mr. Burnett is prominent in fraternal circles and is a member of the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Woodmen of the World and the Ancient Order of United Workmen. He was made a Mason in Las Palmas Lodge, F. & A. M., Fresno, and is a member of the Royal Arch Chapter; the Commercial Club, Chamber of Commerce, and is an officer of the Humane Society. Politically he is a staunch Republican. Mr. Burnett is recognized as one of the upbuilders of Fresno County where the most active years of his life have been spent, and where he has won a large circle of friends and business associates. He is fond of hunting and fishing and each year he goes into the mountains and is familiar with every part of the county. He built his residence at Ninth and Mono in 1898 and improved the grounds, which comprise a city block.

EDWARD EARL SLATER.—An enterprising Californian who has become deservedly prominent because of his leadership in various movements for the building up of his section, and especially on account of his beneficent activity in favor of an irrigation project whereby the people may handle the business of their own water-supply, is E. E. Slater, president and manager of the Kern Pucheu Oil Company, who resides at Tranquillity. He was born at Nelsonville, Athens County, Ohio, March 4, 1878, the son of Joseph Slater, a native of Staffordshire, England, from which country the elder Slater came with his parents, when he was fifteen years old, to the United States and Ohio. Grandfather Slater was an early settler in the Hocking Valley, where Joseph grew up in the coal region and became a self-made man interested in the coal industry. In time he became one of the largest coal operators, as well as one of the oldest in the Hocking Valley, having his headquarters for many years at Nelsonville. There he was one of the organizers of the Johnson Bros. Coal Company; and when he sold his interest in that concern, he started the Maple Hill Coal Company, which became one of the most extensive coal managements in all that region. He was also interested in the Keever Starch Company, of Columbus, Ohio, and the Scioto Stone Company, at the same place; and he was a partner with C. L. Kurtz in mining in Guanajuato, Mexico. An energetic Democrat, he was a councilman in Nelsonville, and a member of the Water Commission; and he was a prominent Mason, Knight Templar and Shriner. He chose for his wife and life-companion Barbara Ann Coulter, and she was born at Logan in Hocking County, the daughter of John A. Coulter, a native of Pennsylvania, and a manufacturing cooper. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Slater are still living, the parents of five boys and a girl, among whom Edward Earl is the second eldest.

After graduating from the Nelsonville high school, E. E. Slater entered the Ohio State University at Columbus and there studied until he joined his father in business. He was made superintendent and manager of the coal mines and stores at Nelsonville, and in that capacity he served with exceptional ability until his father sold out and located in Columbus. Then he entered the employ of the Keever Starch Company, as a traveling salesman in the East, introducing starch, and later solicited for the Columbus Public Service Electric Light and Heating Company, established by his father, purveyors of electric light and heat. After that, for several years, he was a wholesale coal merchant at Columbus.

In 1910, Mr. Slater became interested with his father in 163 acres of land at Tranquillity, Cal., and he sold his Ohio holdings to move to California. He leveled and checked the land for alfalfa, and erected the necessary



E. E. Slater Mrs. E. E. Slater

buildings and made other improvements. He also leased land and raised grain. The property owned by Mr. Slater was reclaimed land at time of purchase, and it was owing to his short residence in this state and his ignorance of irrigation laws of California that led him to sign up with the San Joaquin Valley Farm Lands Company to put their land into a reclamation district, thus subjecting them to frequent assessments. Upon investigation he found that conditions were different than he had been led to believe and he got out a remonstrance, took the matter before the board of supervisors, who set the reclamation project aside and gave him permission to organize an irrigation district, which he did. The result was, after careful study, that he originated the idea of a water-supply project and was successful in getting the irrigation district established under the Wright Law. He carried the election to go on with the work, and was elected by the people as their assessor, collector and treasurer. This project has been the making of the district, so that Mr. Slater feels well repaid for all the labor in connection with the matter.

Mr. Slater was also clerk of the board of trustees of the Grammar School for six years, and he first proposed that a Union High School be established, and a building therefor be erected. Indeed, he was made president of the board of directors. He was always interested in the Pine Flat scheme for the conservation of water, and was elected a member of the executive committee having the matter in charge. In 1918 he was the candidate for supervisor against the present incumbent, and he came within twenty-four votes of being elected.

Mr. Slater promoted and sold the stock in the new bank, known as the First National Bank of Tranquillity, which opened its doors for business on August 20, 1919, in temporary quarters until their new and modern bank-building, costing \$20,000, is completed. The community felt the need of a local bank to handle the business, which had grown to such proportions that it was very unhandy to handle transactions at long distances, which caused delay and expense to the customers, and in consequence Mr. Slater put his shoulder to the wheel and started an institution that will reflect to his credit in the future. The bank is capitalized at \$50,000, and the officers of the concern are: E. E. Slater, president; J. E. Tuttle, first vice-president; W. J. Williams, second vice-president; A. S. Fuqua, cashier. These gentlemen, together with J. N. Daniel, C. F. Goodrich, K. O. Whitson and John Davis, make up the efficient board of directors. All of these men have been prominent and progressive citizens of this section for a number of years and have the entire confidence of the people of this part of Fresno County.

During the various Liberty Loan drives of the war period Mr. Slater was chairman of the committee for the Tranquillity district, and it was through efficient organization of his forces that the district went "over the top" in record time in each drive, as they did in the Thrift Stamp sales and all other allied drives in Fresno County.

While at Nelsonville, Mr. Slater was married to Miss Celia Anna Dane, a native of Hocking County, and a charming lady who has done much to make him successful. Mr. and Mrs. Slater attend the Methodist Church. Mr. Slater brought his nephew, Donald C. Slater, out to California, sent him to the Fresno High, from which he graduated. He then enlisted in the United States Navy, and was one of the boys from the Fresno High that was selected to go to Stanford, where he studied under the direction of the government, until the armistice was signed and he received his discharge.

Always popular in whatever circle he has moved, Mr. Slater is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Mendota, and the Columbus Chapter, No. 37, of the B. P. O. Elks, and he belongs to the Fresno Eagles. Both Mr. and Mrs. Slater have a host of friends who are glad that they were drawn, as by the beckoning of Destiny, to Tranquillity.

WILLIAM A. COLLINS.—Aside from the honors associated with the office of county supervisor, Mr. Collins has the distinction of being a native son of Fresno County. Not only has he been instrumental in the upbuilding of the county, but his father, J. D. Collins, was also actively identified with public work, being well known as an educator and a former sheriff of the county, a sketch of whom will be found on another page in this history.

William A. Collins was born August 6, 1877, at Dry Creek, Fresno County. His education was gained in the public schools and the high school, after which he pursued a business course. Upon the completion of his schooling, he tried a venture in which only a young man of pioneer grit and determination could have succeeded. Out near Sanger he took up a tract of 800 acres of raw land. To the hard task of improving it, he devoted all of his time and the energy and ambition with which he was abundantly blessed. Years of industry have carried the days of worry into a remote past, and now Mr. Collins can view with pleasure his successful achievements. Instead of barren waste, he now owns a fine tract of cultivated ground, producing grapes and various fruits.

Since making a study of political questions, Mr. Collins has been identified with the Democratic party, and while he personally superintends the management of his ranch, he is still able to devote the necessary time to the office of county supervisor, to which he was elected, first in 1912, and re-elected, in 1916, for a second term of four years. This honor demonstrates how capably he has looked after the interests of the people. Since being a member of the board he has been chairman of the County Farm and Fairgrounds committee, during which time the Farm has been brought to its present high state of efficiency. He is a charter member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and representative of the commissioners in the Raisin Day Festival since 1913. The Methodist Church receives his hearty support.

Mr. Collins' marriage occurred December 4, 1901, when Miss Myrtle Nelson became his wife. She is the granddaughter of Major T. P. Nelson, a well-known citizen of Fresno, and is proud of the fact that she is a native daughter. They have four children: James P., Thelma, Myrtle and Mary E.

EMMETT RIGGINS.—A building contractor who believes in doing things, and whose work, therefore, evident on every hand in the leading structures of Fresno and vicinity, speaks for him in no uncertain terms, is Emmett Riggins, who was born in Missouri on January 10, 1862. His father was George W. Riggins, and he married Miss Ann Dean. Both parents, having faithfully completed their earthly tasks and enjoyed the measure of days allotted them, in which they had the highest esteem of their fellow-townfolk, are now dead. Growing up in Missouri, Emmett was sent to the public schools of his district, and later, to satisfy his ambition for learning, he attended the State University at Columbia, and there prepared himself for his later success in the world.

Putting aside his books for a while, he was apprenticed to the coach-building trade; and having served his time, he worked as a journeyman for several years. In 1886, however, he cast loose from his Missouri moorings and came West; and landing on both feet at the start, in a couple of years, he was well-established as a contractor.

The year 1888 found him moving into Fresno, then only a village, and yet even at that time an attractive place that anyone could see was full of promise. He at once engaged in building, and many of the early structures of the town, particularly the building blocks, were erected by him and after his designs. For a while he was in partnership with a Mr. Rehan, now deceased, and then he joined E. A. Palmer of Fresno and assisted him in carrying out his notable work in the San Joaquin Valley.

Among the edifices he thus built, adding much to the architectural attractiveness and modern convenience of the neighborhood, may be men-



J. A. Collins

tioned the Hughes Block, the Braly Building, the Chance Building, the Kuttner Building, the Fulton Hotel, and the Cory Building. He remodelled the First National Bank, working there a very agreeable renovation, and he had the contract for the new six-story, reenforced concrete Mason Block.

But Mr. Riggins has done much more than erect some of the most striking business structures in this and neighboring towns. Repeatedly his taste and experience have been called for to help create of Fresno the City Beautiful. He has therefore designed and put up many of the most ornate private residences in Central California; nor can one doubt, who has followed the steady display of his ability, that his resources in invention or execution ever will fail, however rapid or extensive may be the development of the city.

NATHAN HENRY HAYS.—A California vineyardist who resides near Clovis, one of the most promising sections in Fresno County, is Nathan Henry Hays, whose career has been advanced through the companionship and inspiration of his wife. He was born in Stephenson County, Ill., December 2, 1850, the son of Amos Hays, who came from Ohio and in his native state married Mary Howe, also an Ohioan, whose ancestors had an honorable part in the Revolutionary War. In time the father removed to Stephenson County, and in 1856 to Mineral Point, Wis., where he was a farmer. Then he removed back to Ohio for five years, and returning to Wisconsin died there at the age of eighty-six. Mrs. Hays had passed away in Wisconsin, the mother of two boys and four girls, of whom one boy and two girls are living. A brother of our subject, D. J. Hays, settled in Fresno County and bought a vineyard at Easton; and returning to Fresno he died there in 1915.

Brought up in Wisconsin, Nathan Henry attended the public schools there and when seventeen returned to Bethel, Claremont, County, Ohio, where he continued his schooling. Arriving at the age of twenty-two he found himself once more in Wisconsin, and there he engaged in farming.

On December 19, 1877, Mr. Hays was married at Willow Springs, La Fayette County, to Miss Emily Cork, a native of Staffordshire, England, and the daughter of Hugh and Ann (Brough) Cork, who had been born in that section. Her father was a tailor and later a Methodist minister, and in 1869 he brought his family across the ocean to Mineral Point. There he was a clergyman and also at Shullsburg and other places, and in time he came to California. He died at Modesto in his seventy-sixth year. Mrs. Cork died in Wisconsin. The couple had nine children, five of whom are still living. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hays remained in La Fayette County for twelve years, during which time they were actively engaged in farming. Desiring, however, to live in a milder climate they sacrificed what they had and, in 1889 came west to California; and being impressed with the superior advantages of Fresno, three months later they bought forty acres of alfalfa land in Easton and made plans to settle there.

In the fall of 1890 Mr. Hays bought his present place of sixty acres. It was stubble land when he entered upon it, but he immediately began improvements and set it all out as a vineyard. He had built a residence on the Easton ranch in 1895, but he later disposed of that and now resides here. In 1900 he built a fine residence on his present place, and now he has forty acres of vineyard with muscat and Thompson vines and the balance is in peach orchards and alfalfa, the whole conveniently situated three miles southeast of Clovis. He is an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

Nine children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Hays, and eight have reached maturity. Mabel, who is a graduate of a business college at Fresno, is now Mrs. O. C. Coddington, and lives in Los Angeles; Ressie, who graduated from the San Jose State Normal school and was a teacher, is the wife of C. R. Reyburn, of Enterprise Colony; Ray W. Hays was a Captain of a Company in the 362d Regiment, 91st Division and served through all the

campaigns in France and Belgium. He has been a well-known attorney of Fresno, having graduated from the school of law of the State University; Gertrude was also a teacher, a graduate of the Fresno Normal, and is now Mrs. W. C. Schlein, of Fresno; John was in the United States Army, stationed at Schofield Barracks, Honolulu, then was at Camp Dodge, Iowa; when mustered out he was a sergeant; Loverne, having graduated from the Clovis High School, is now a student in the University of California; while Pearl is a graduate of the Clovis High School. Percy died April 23, 1901, aged twenty.

Mr. Hays is a Republican in national politics and has shown his advocacy of serving his fellowmen in local civic work by acting as trustee, for nine years, of the Jefferson School district; and during that time the school-house was built. He is a member of the Christian Church at Clovis, and also of the Fraternal Brotherhood. He was made a Mason in Mineral Point Lodge, No. 1, A. F. & A. M., thirty-three years ago, and is now connected with the Clovis Lodge, No. 417 F. & A. M. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hays are members of Concordia Chapter, No. 320, O. E. S., in which Mrs. Hays is worthy matron. He joined the Odd Fellows in Ohio forty-seven years ago, and is still a member of Mineral Point Lodge, No. 1, in Wisconsin. Search where you may it would be difficult to find two more useful members of developing society than Mr. and Mrs. Hays who have entered so heartily into Central California life.

ARTHUR E. WEBB.—A prominent banker of Fresno County, who has always had the best interests of his community as his first consideration is Arthur E. Webb, president of the First National Bank of Coalinga, who came to the town in 1890. He was born in London, England, and was educated in the public schools of that city. Then he entered a jewelry house in the metropolis, with which he continued until 1890.

Stirred with the spirit of adventure, Mr. Webb struck out for the United States, and after a short time spent in New York, crossed the continent to California. A relative of his, A. P. May, had located in Coalinga a few years before, and that led Mr. Webb to come here, also. He located on a homestead of 160 acres on the West Side, and there he continued for three years.

Then he accepted a position as clerk in the store of Simon Manasse, a pioneer merchant of Coalinga, commencing in the period before oil was discovered in commercial quantities, and he worked through January, 1896, when Chanslor & Canfield started their oil development. Mr. Webb then started as a merchant on Front Street, the business being conducted under the name of A. E. Webb; and when, six months later, A. P. May became a partner, the firm name was changed to Webb & May. At a later date Mr. Webb sold his interest to Mr. May, after which, for two years, he became an oil operator, and was interested in the Kreyenhagen Land & Oil Company, giving it his personal attention; but it did not prove a financial success, and he lost what he had accumulated.

Once more Mr. Webb turned to the sale of merchandise; and again he made such a success that he purchased the northeast corner of Fifth and E Streets and erected there a frame store building, stocked it with merchandise, and soon had built up a large business and developed the enterprise into a modern department store. He was in business for twelve years, and during that time built the Webb Block, a two-story brick structure, 100x150 feet in dimension. In 1912 he sold his goods and quit the merchandise trade, to devote his time to real estate and banking interests.

Mr. Webb was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Coalinga, in 1908, served as a director and vice-president from the start; and in 1914 he became president and manager, a position he now fills to the satisfaction of all having both the interests of that institution and the town at heart. The bank was originally located in the Webb Block, but in 1916 it was consolidated with the Bank of Coalinga, retaining the name of the First National Bank, but occupying the quarters of the Bank of Coal-

inga, at the northwest corner of Fifth and E Streets. Its capital stock is and always has been \$50,000, and its surplus now amounts to over \$30,000. In January, 1916, both banks had deposits to the amount of \$785,000, and now the First National Bank's deposits are over a million and a half dollars.

Undeterred by his former experiences, Mr. Webb is now interested in the Lucile Oil Company, and also the Elaine Oil Company, being president of the latter; and he is also concerned in the development of other oil properties, and has been engaged in buying and selling oil lands, in which he has met with gratifying success for himself and others.

In Fresno, Mr. Webb was married to Miss Clara Ochs, a popular lady of that city, and two children have blessed their union—George Arthur and Dorothy. The family attend the Christian Science Church. Mr. and Mrs. Webb actively participated in war work; he has been chairman of the Coalinga Chapter of the Red Cross from its organization, and was chairman of all the Liberty Loan drives here, and in each case Coalinga went over and beyond the top. He served as district chairman here for the Fuel Administration. Mr. Webb is a Republican in national politics; for six years he served as a non-partisan member of the board of city trustees, and for two years of that time was president of the board. He was made a Mason in Coalinga Lodge, No. 347, F. & A. M., and is a member of the Chapter and Commandery in Hanford, and Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. in San Francisco, and is a member of the Eastern Star in Coalinga. He is a member and a director of the Coalinga Chamber of Commerce.

A. T. LINDGREN.—How impossible it would have been for any young and struggling municipality such as Kingsburg to develop and permanently and successfully establish itself without the advice and substantial aid of such institutions as its banks only those can realize when they know what, through the wise and generous cooperation of such concerns, has at last been accomplished. It is safe to say that nothing has proven so much the heart and mainspring of a new and ambitious community as has a live bank; and since the establishment here of the First National Bank of Kingsburg, this city has been reenforced to an extent not accorded every would-be city trying to get onto the map. This admirable financial institution owes its success, aside from the cordial welcome and support given it by the public since its start, largely to the exceptional staff of officers with which it has been manned; and none among them, perhaps, deserves more credit for hard, steady work in the building up of both bank and, consequently, the town, than A. T. Lindgren, its cashier and one of the directors.

He was born in Lindsborg, McPherson County, Kans., on February 10, 1872, the son of S. P. Lindgren, who was one of the three founders after whom Lindsborg was named. He was born in Sweden, and there married to Miss Martha Olson, of the same place, who came with him to Chicago and then to Kansas. There, with two partners, Mr. Lindgren organized at Smoky Hill Valley a land association, which developed into cooperative store-keeping; and from that movement came the establishing and naming of the town. Mr. Lindgren died in California in February, 1902, leaving five children, all of whom are now in California. A. T. Lindgren, the subject of this review; S. O. is a rancher of Kingsburg; M. E. farms at Turlock; Emma resides with her mother at Kingsburg; and Christine, now Mrs. L. O. Homstrom, is on a ranch at Kingsburg.

S. P. Lindgren, besides being a merchant at Lindsborg, was also a hotel proprietor there and a merchant in Chicago, and it will be seen that he must have bequeathed to his son certain qualities and aptitudes likely to be of the greatest service to him in the field in which, as it has transpired, he chose to cast his lot. After attending the public schools at Lindsborg, he spent a year very profitably at Bethany College in 1887, and then, in 1889, he came to California and settled on a ranch at Kingsburg. From his seventeenth year he shifted for himself, and before long he became one of the organizers of

the Linnea Cooperative Packing Association, which was established in 1900, when he became its manager. He was also the first secretary of the Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Kingsburg, also organized in 1900. He helped organize, too, the First National Bank of Kingsburg in 1904, and was its first, as he has been its only cashier.

The first officers were: President, D. S. Snodgrass, of Selma; Vice-president, Levi Garrett; Cashier, A. T. Lindgren; and its first Board of Directors were: D. S. Snodgrass, Selma; Levi Garrett, Kingsburg; M. Vincent, Selma; and Alfred Nelson, Kingsburg. Its present officers are: President, Levi Garrett; Vice-president, Alfred Nelson; Cashier, A. T. Lindgren; Assistant Cashier, B. C. Nelson; and its present Board of Directors consists of Messrs. Garrett, Nelson, Lindgren, D. E. Brown and N. Vincent.

The condition of this popular bank could certainly not be better, all things considered. Its resources are: Loans and discounts, \$390,000; U. S. Bonds, \$43,500; other bonds, \$3,500; stock in Federal Reserve Bank, \$1,650; banking house, furniture and fixtures, \$23,650; cash and sight exchange, \$75,000; while its liabilities are: capital stock, \$50,000; surplus, \$5,000; undivided profits, \$3,000; circulation, \$25,000; deposits, \$450,000; and other liabilities, making an impressive total of \$600,000.

Mr. Lindgren was married at Kingsburg in 1906 to Miss Selma Snorin, a native of Olivia, Minn., and the daughter of A. Snorin. Four children have blessed this union, and their names are Ira Whitney, Kenneth Theodore, Rosalie Annette and Ruth Eloise.

Mr. Lindgren has shown his good qualities as a citizen in many movements for the betterment of the community. He was chairman of the board that undertook the incorporation of Kingsburg, and the city, since it was incorporated, has been dry as a bone! Otherwise he has kept out of politics. He helped to organize the Swedish Mission Church. He resides at the corner of South and West Streets, in a pretty, comfortable and hospitable bungalow home, and he has a farm of ten acres, set out to vines and trees. He also owns as town property five acres planted to vines in the Carlson Addition.

JESSE AUGUST BLASINGAME.—Any list of the pioneers of Fresno County, and especially of those men who have been successfully engaged in the stock-raising business would be incomplete without the name of Jesse A. Blasingame, a Mexican War veteran and an early settler near Academy. He was a native of Talladega County, Ala.

Becoming enthused with the interesting reports of the discovery of gold in California, Jesse A. Blasingame decided to try his fortunes in the Golden State and in that memorable year, 1849, came by the Isthmus of Panama to California, bringing with him several men to help in the mines. For awhile he engaged in mining for gold, but like many other men endowed with keen business acumen, he discovered that there were other ways and means of securing gold, or its equivalent, that were not so uncertain and hazardous. Subsequently he entered into the stock-raising business and by the exercise of his innate good judgment and wise management he achieved a satisfactory success.

In 1862 or 1863 he located in Fresno County and purchased land near Big Dry Creek, in the vicinity of Academy, and engaged in raising cattle, hogs, sheep and horses. As he prospered he purchased more land until in time he became one of the largest land owners in that section. His holdings extended about nine miles in one direction, reaching almost from Friant to Academy, and included about 12,000 acres.

In 1870, J. A. Blasingame with his wife and two children returned East, going to his old home state, Alabama, to settle an estate. Later the family went to Texas, where they spent one winter in Bell County. The next spring Mr. Blasingame began to purchase cattle to drive across the plains. His first purchase was at San Antonio, Texas, where he secured 1,200 head, he kept on adding to his purchases until he had about 2,000 head which he and



J. V. Daniel



Annie Daniel.

his sons brought safely across the plains and mountains until they reached Humboldt Wells, Nev. From this point they shipped the cattle to San Francisco, Sacramento and Colfax, receiving such good prices for the stock that he netted a handsome sum for his hazardous undertaking, and demonstrated his splendid business ability. That his keen business judgment and wise council in financial matters were soon recognized in the community, is recorded in the fact that he was one time the vice-president of the Fresno County Bank.

About 1878, he retired from active participation in business affairs and removed to the city of Fresno, where he spent his last days. He built the Ogle House, one of the first good hotels in Fresno and after his death, his widow built the Blasingame Block, now known as the Commercial Block at H. and Tulare Streets. J. A. Blasingame was interested in educational matters and helped to build the Academy school house, which was one of the first in Fresno County. He also gave his aid to church work in the community.

Jesse A. Blasingame was united in marriage with Mary Jane Ogle, a native of Missouri. She crossed the plains when she was about fourteen years of age, with her parents in an ox team train. Mr. and Mrs. Blasingame became the parents of seven children: Alfred H., a stockman who resides at Clovis; Albert A., is a resident of Fresno; Lee A., is a viticulturist and stockman seven miles northeast of Fresno; Nannie, is Mrs. N. H. Peterson, of Los Angeles; W. O. is a stockman and viticulturist of the Kutner Colony; J. A. Jr. is a rancher at Lone Star; Gertrude, is Mrs. Aten, residing in Fresno. Jesse A. Blasingame passed away in 1881, at the age of sixty-one; his wife continued to reside in Fresno until her death in 1908, at the age of seventy-two years.

JOHN N. DANIEL.—An enterprising and progressive Californian, of liberal-hearted tendencies pleasantly shown in his varied intercourse with others, is John N. Daniel, one of the oldest settlers and most prominent of the men identified with Tranquillity and its vast irrigation interests. He was born in Honey Lake Valley, Lassen County, on April 20, 1865, the son of James H. Daniel, a native of Mt. Vernon district, Ky. He removed with his parents to Ralls County, Mo., where Grandfather Daniel died. Grandmother Daniel spent her last days in California, having come here by way of Panama, and died in Woodland. The father was about nineteen years old when he came by ox team across the pathless plains; and about 1851 he settled in Yolo County. There he married Margaret Briggs, a native of Ralls County, Mo., whose family had come with Grandmother Daniel across the Isthmus. The father was long engaged in farming at old Buckeye, Yolo County, but he took his family back to Missouri in 1873, and died in a railroad accident while on a trip to Texas. The mother and the family were in Missouri at the time; and after this accident, they stayed there, and in that state the mother died in 1880, having had four children, three of whom are living. John N. is the second eldest, and the others are: Mrs. Davidella Hart of Fresno; and Mrs. Bessie Miller of Los Angeles.

Brought up in California, except ten years when he lived in Ralls County, Mo., and always anxious to get back to California, John came to Fresno, on his return to the state, in May, 1885, and for about five years, was foreman for Jeff James on his ranch at Fish Slough, now Tranquillity, being engaged especially in stock-raising. He then located at West Park and improved a vineyard; and soon after located a homestead of 160 acres just west of the James ranch. This was about 1892 or 1893, and he also leased land and engaged in grain-raising, his landlord being Mr. James. All in all, he managed about 800, and sometimes 1,000 acres a year. He had a big outfit and a combined harvester, and ran it till the place was subdivided for colonization purposes.

Meantime, while grain-farming, he improved his homestead, turning the first furrow in what was then a wilderness. He improved it for alfalfa, and

grew about the first alfalfa raised here. He and other renters built the ditch from the slough for twelve miles to irrigate their crops; and as it reached his land, he was one of the original owners of the ditch. As he built about twenty-five and a half per cent. of the ditch, he has in it valuable priority rights. He also helped build the Joaquin ditch and the Pump ditch. Now he is raising both alfalfa and stock, and he still owns the vineyard at the corner of Church and Marks Avenues, in West Park, near Fresno.

Mr. Daniel was married, at Fresno, to Mrs. Annie (Jagger) Daniel, a native of New Jersey, who was reared in San Francisco. By her first union she had three children: John Nelson, now in San Francisco; Frank James, in Tranquillity; and William Arthur, who was in the United States Army. All of these children were educated at the usual common schools and also at the Fresno high school.

For sixteen years Mr. Daniel has been overseer of roads in this district, serving first under C. W. Garrett and of late under Chris Jorgensen, and for years before he was working on the roads in various parts of the county. He is a Democrat, and has been a delegate to the county and state conventions; he is also a member of the Democratic County Central Committee. For years he was a school trustee of the original Artesia school district, and has of late been a member of the Tranquillity school board. From its organization until March 4, 1919, he was chairman of the board of directors of the Tranquillity Irrigation District, which has charge of over 11,000 acres; and he is also a member of the executive committee of the Pine Flat Conservation Project, which has for its aim the building of a great dam, above Piedra, in Pine Flat for a large reservoir to store the waters and give a longer irrigation season by having a great supply. He was one of the organizers and is a director of The First National Bank of Tranquillity, and in this enterprise, as well as all others of merit and uplift, he is ready to give the best that is in him to make them successful.

E. F. LOESCHER.—Few among the present-day men of affairs who have long worked and are still laboring for a greater California of the future deserve more honorable mention than E. F. Loescher, president and manager of the Action Brokerage Company, of Fresno. He is the son of Otto Loescher, the well-known pioneer of Fresno, who was born in Germany, December 29, 1859, the son of General Loescher, who was killed while stationed in China. Otto Loescher attended the public schools, and then was apprenticed and learned the trade of miller. Crossing the ocean in 1886, he went to Indiana and followed his trade there for two years. He found the climate unattractive, particularly in view of the stories told about California, so he came on further west and selected Selma, in Fresno County, for a home. He worked as miller in the Bachold mill there, and later in a flouring mill at Reedley. While busy at his trade he invested his earnings in a forty-acre ranch near Selma, which he improved and later sold.

In 1901 he took up his residence on the place that came to be known as his home ranch. This property he improved in many ways, erecting a fine country home and otherwise making of it a valuable property. This place was located north of Fowler and comprised forty acres. At the same time that he bought this place he bargained for forty acres to the south. On his properties he set out about seventy acres to vines. The first ranch that he owned in the county was on the West Side. It was a government claim of half a section of land, which he devoted to grain; but he could see greater possibilities in viticulture.

After coming to Fresno County, Mr. Loescher married Miss Katie Viotor, a daughter of Frank Viotor, who was born in Germany in 1838, and came to the United States with his parents in 1848. Frank Viotor came from Cincinnati, Ohio, to the Sacramento Valley in 1861, and became superintendent of farming and stock-raising on several large islands in the Sacramento River. He came down to Fresno County in 1881. In partnership with his

father-in-law, Otto Loescher leased over 2,000 acres of land near Selma, which they farmed to grain and where they ran a threshing outfit, at that time something of a novelty in this section. Mr. Loescher was a pioneer in growing Thompson seedless raisins. He was an active member in the German Lutheran Church at Selma, and a member of the Odd Fellows there. After a successful career, made happier by a wide circle of friends, he sold out his interests in 1915 and moved to Orange County, where he now resides. Their three children are: Eda, the wife of C. L. Caine, who is a partner in the Action Brokerage Company; Agnes, who became the wife of E. Benson, also associated with the Action Brokerage Company; and E. F., of this review.

E. F. Loescher was educated at the public schools in Fowler, and in 1910 was graduated from the Portland Academy, at Portland, Ore., after which he took a commercial course at the Vancouver Institute, fitting himself for a business career. While in Vancouver, B. C., he was for three years secretary to the Imperial Rice Milling Company. In 1913, before returning to California, he married Alice Katherine Stevinson, a native of Vancouver, by whom he has had two sons, Jack and Burt.

Upon returning to California in 1913, Mr. Loescher went to work for the California Associated Raisin Company, at the Phoenix plant at Fowler; and on leaving that concern at the end of six months, he worked for a like period for Hans Graff in Fresno. Then he became office man for the American Vineyard Company, and was later promoted to buyer. He resigned on December 31, 1916, to look after his own vineyard in Barstow Colony; but on May 1, of the following year, he returned to the company as the Fresno district manager, succeeding F. A. Seymour. On December 31, 1918, he resigned from this position to become associated with C. L. Caine and Harry Berndt in the Action Brokerage Company, in which he was chosen president and general manager. The company is incorporated for \$50,000. It is the first real estate firm in Fresno to handle farmers' supplies, nursery stock, grape stakes, etc.; and it is also engaged in buying and selling green and dried fruits. The firm specializes in country property; and its members, being well-known and reliable, are building up a large clientele extending all over the state.

Mr. Loescher owns the finest ranch in Barstow Colony, 160 acres, 100 of which are devoted to raising Thompson seedless raisins, while the balance is set to Sultanas, Malagas, peaches and figs. He also owns eight head of finely matched, well-bred mules, black in color, which took the first prize at three fairs in 1917—the State Fair, the Kings County Fair and the Fresno County Fair. His mule "Sue" took the sweepstake prize as champion of the state at the State Fair in 1917. In addition he owns a standard-bred, three-year-old mare, a pacer, named "Katherine C.," that bids fair to make a record. His stables contain all modern improvements, and he also has a Holt and a Wallace tractor on his ranch. He is also engaged in breeding registered pure-bred Persian sheep of the red-faced type, without any mixture. He is one of three breeders of Persian sheep on the Pacific Coast, and one of but seven in the United States. The care and study he has given to the breeding up of his stock have resulted in what is said to be the finest flock of Persians in the United States. Mr. Loescher is an authority on the growing of Thompson seedless raisin grapes, as well as a soil expert; and his opinion is often sought by prospective buyers, who have confidence in his judgment. He has contributed articles to the local papers and farm journals on grape culture, methods of cultivation, fertilizing, and curing the grape, and his articles have received favorable comment. He is a member of the Sequoia Club and the Commercial Club of Fresno.

LUCIUS POWERS.—Ever since the stirring days of '49, the Powers family has been identified with the history of California. The founder of the family on the coast was Aaron Hubbard Powers, a native of New Hampshire, but from early childhood a resident of Boston, Mass. At the time of the discovery of gold in California, he took passage on a sailing vessel and after a long voyage, by way of Cape Horn, landed at the Golden Gate in 1849, whence he proceeded with other Argonauts, to the mines. Eventually he became engaged in business in Sacramento, where he continued for twenty years. Upon retiring from commercial life in 1887, he purchased 250 acres of land west of Centerville, Fresno County, and soon afterwards planted 100 acres of the tract to fruits of various kinds; also set out a large vineyard.

In 1898, he took his son Lucius into full partnership with him, Lucius at that time becoming active manager of the property. When Aaron H. Powers married, he chose for his wife Emma Louisa Sweasy, a native of London, England, whose death occurred at the home ranch near Centerville, July 24, 1902, at the age of sixty-five years. Aaron Hubbard Powers, the founder of the family in California, while making a trip around the world, died in the city of Venice, Italy, April 17, 1907. There were six sons and three daughters in the family of this pioneer couple, seven of whom are living; Lucius, the subject of this sketch, being next to the youngest.

Lucius Powers was born in Sacramento, January 11, 1872, and attended school there until fifteen years of age, when he removed with his parents to Centerville, Fresno County, where he completed his school days. An incident of his youth indicates his progressive and enterprising disposition: in 1889, when seventeen years of age, he established the Kings River News, a four-page sheet, six by eight inches in size, published every week. The people of the community around Centerville, which had no publication of its own, appreciated his efforts to give them the news of current interest, their support encouraged him to increase the paper to eight pages, but after he had published it for two years, other matters required his attention and he discontinued the little publication. After completing a course in a business college in San Francisco, he returned to Fresno County and began his career as a horticulturist, viticulturist and fruit shipper, in which he has become eminently successful.

Entering into partnership with his father, Mr. Powers became the active manager of the Powers vineyards and orchards, and after the death of A. H. Powers, the family incorporated the property in 1909, as the Powers Orchard and Vineyard Company, with a capital stock of \$50,000, at which time Lucius Powers was made president and manager. This tract of land under his wise supervision, has become a wonderful producer, and is one of the largest orchards and vineyards in the Centerville district, comprising in all 370 acres; there are about 150 acres in raisin grapes, forty acres in emperors, eleven acres in oranges, 100 acres in nursery stock, principally oranges, twenty-five acres in figs, and the balance in other fruits and alfalfa. In 1909, Mr. Powers established the L. Powers Fruit Company in Fresno. In 1913 he was chosen manager of the San Joaquin Valley district for the Pioneer Fruit Company, which has packing houses in different cities throughout the state. At present he is vice-president of the concern. In 1912 Mr. Powers moved from the ranch into Fresno, where in Palm Villa Tract he has twenty acres in vineyard, the largest vineyard in the city of Fresno. In 1915 Mr. Powers bought out the interests of his brothers and is now sole owner of the Powers Orchard and Vineyard Company's property.

In 1917 Mr. Powers added to his holdings by purchasing half a section of improved land ten miles east of Fresno, on Belmont Avenue, and in 1919 increased his holdings still further by buying a highly improved malaga vineyard of 100 acres at Clotho, for which he paid \$1,000 an acre. Mr. Powers' extensive experience has demonstrated to him that improved land is the best kind of an investment, as he well knows that with care and good management



Franklin Abbott

the income from the crops will pay for the land in a few years. He assisted in the organization of the Commercial Bank of Sanger, of which he is vice-president; for several years he served as a director of the First National Bank of Sanger, and in many other ways has shown his deep interest in the development of the best interests of Fresno County, believing that it offers better inducements for the homeseeker than any other part of California.

The marriage of Lucius Powers with Miss Abbie Viau, who was born at Colusa, was celebrated on July 3, 1900. Four children have been born of this union: Lucius, Jr.; Mary Louisa; Martha Kate; and Aaron Hubbard. Fraternally, Mr. Powers is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; Woodmen of the World; Benevolent Protective Order of Elks; and the Rebekahs. His social relations are with the Commercial Club, Sequoia Club and Sunnyside Country Club, and his business associations are with the Chamber of Commerce. Other personal interests that claim his attention and management are: L. Powers Fruit Company; L. Powers Orange Company; L. Powers Wood Company; L. Powers Tree Company; L. Powers Home Ranch; L. Powers B Ranch; and the Shoemaker Orchard Company of Lindsay.

Lucius Powers has contributed greatly to the substantial and permanent development of scientific horticulture and viticulture in Fresno County, and there is no man more deeply interested in the progress made in the development of the State of California than this native son. He is always ready to co-operate in any worthy project which has as its aim the advancement of public interests, either commercially, financially, educationally or socially, and in both county and state Mr. Powers holds an enviable position as an eminently successful business man.

FRANKLIN ABBOTT.—An old settler who has passed through the hardest of hard times, experiencing the failure of grain crops, and starvation prices for that upon which much time and fatiguing labor had been expended, and who, having borne his trials manfully, has won success as a viticulturist is Franklin Abbott, the subject of this review. Mr. Abbott is also an expert teamster and judge of land and cattle, and has raised horses and mules for twenty-eight years, having come to Fresno in the early eighties. He was born near Bloomington, McLean County, Ill., on February 10, 1864, the son of Milo J. Abbott, a native of Maine, who came to Illinois and there settled as a farmer, about 1881 removing to Kansas, and while living at Garden City he died. Milo's wife was Adeline Burt before her marriage, and her native state was New Hampshire. She proved the best of helpmates to her husband, and ended a useful career in Illinois, the mother of thirteen children, six of whom are still living. One of the sons, Andrew, came to Fresno about 1880, and is a rancher at Del Rey.

Franklin was the seventh eldest and grew up on a farm in Illinois. He attended the country schools and remained at home until he was sixteen. Then he went to work for his brother, so that, fortunate in such an advisor, he secured an excellent start for the great tussle with the world. In 1882 the young man came west to California and made his way to Fresno County. Fresno itself was then only a small place with two stores, and the whole country about was a wide stretch of plain, with cattle and sheep, so he went to work in a vineyard and orchard in Washington Colony, where he remained busy until spring, when he went to the mountains with a band of sheep for his cousin, George Rowell. He spent two summers in the mountains in caring for herds, and even if he had gotten nothing else out of the experience, he built up his health and intensified his love for California outdoor life.

Then Mr. Abbott started for himself as a farmer. He bought an outfit and a ten-mule team, and for two years leased land from Dr. Rowell in the Washington Colony. Then he leased 1,200 acres of the Simpson ranch near Academy, and later the Dickinson ranch of 1,500 acres on Dry Creek. For fourteen years he continued there, and in that time raised some big crops.

He had some failures, due to the low selling prices, being compelled to dispose of his barley at times at only ten dollars a ton, White Australian wheat at seventy-three cents a cental, and Sonora wheat at sixty-three cents, so that when he came to balance up, at the end of that time, he found that if he had worked out in the service of others, at twenty-five dollars a month for the fourteen years, he would have been better off than he was through his own enterprise. He raised mules and horses, as many as seventy to 100 head a year, and also cattle, and was rated as doing considerable business. Whatever his luck, he never grumbled; nor did he resort to the "flowing bowl" to drown his disappointment. He found that nothing paid better than to cheerfully peg away.

Reflecting on his past experience, Mr. Abbott determined to buy a small place. In the fall of 1905, therefore, he purchased his present holding of forty acres in the Barstow Colony, and at once began to improve it. He set out twenty acres in peaches and the next year a vineyard and a fine tract of alfalfa; but until the California Peach Growers, Inc., was formed, the price paid for peaches was so low that it was impossible to realize a profit. Now he belongs to that association, and through collective marketing his orchard enterprise is a success, as also are those of his fellow members. He has ten acres of alfalfa and eleven acres of Thompson and Malaga grapes, and is acknowledged to have one of the finest vineyards in the vicinity. This success must be the result, in part, of Mr. Abbott's excellent judgment in selecting his land which also is well watered from the Herndon canal. He has built a fine building, and set around the whole a border of figs.

While at Academy, Mr. Abbott was married to Miss Maud Baley, a native of Oregon, but reared in this state, and the daughter of Henry Baley, a pioneer farmer of Fresno who made a specialty of raising fine standard-bred horses. Nine children make up the family of Mr. and Mrs. Abbott; they are: Gladys, Milburn, Beulah, Frances, Walter, Doris, Marie, Frank and Helen, and all are at home assisting in dispensing that welcome and hospitality for which the Abbott household has long been famous. They attend the Presbyterian Church at Barstow, of which Mr. Abbott is a steward, and contribute to the social-center life in the Barstow school, where Mr. Abbott served for three years as a trustee.

Independent in politics, Mr. Abbott has performed much service for the common weal, and has twice served as deputy sheriff, under Sheriffs Chittenden and McSwain. He is an instructive talker and has many interesting reminiscences of the days that are gone, and remembers well when he hauled lumber from the mountains to Fresno, and also hauled provisions from Fresno to the mountains, a livelihood being maintained under anything but convenient circumstances.

ROBERT W. BARNWELL.—The growth and prosperity of Fresno is largely due to its diversified industries, although for more than thirty years its principal source of revenue has been and still is that of fruit raising in its various branches, among which the raisin industry is foremost.

One of the most prominent fruit growers and shippers of Fresno is Robert W. Barnwell. He was born in Gilmer, Texas, July 5, 1872, the son of D. M. and Martha (McGee) Barnwell. His father was a native of Georgia and a Confederate soldier during the Civil War, after which he settled in Texas, where he was for a number of years a pioneer farmer and stock raiser, and was also engaged quite extensively in railroad contracting. He arrived in Fresno January 1, 1888, where he purchased forty acres of unimproved land in the West Park Colony Tract which he planted to a vineyard. From time to time he increased his holdings until he now owns 220 acres of vineyard, being one of the large raisin growers of Fresno. He still resides on the forty acre tract which he bought in 1888. His wife is dead. He has been a Mason since twenty-one years of age and is now a

member of Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M. Robert W. received his education at West Park School, Fresno, under the tutelage of the well-known educator E. W. Lindsay, the former county superintendent of schools. As a young man he worked for a short time for his father in his vineyard, after which he became the first fruit buyer for A. L. Hobbs, which position he retained for six years. Later he was a buyer for J. K. Armsby for five years, then went back to Rosenberg for two years and afterwards went in business for himself buying and shipping green and dried fruit, in which business he has been very successful. The yearly shipments of dried fruit run from 1,000 to 1,500 tons, and green fruit from 200 to 300 cars; the total value of the fruit being \$500,000.

Mr. Barnwell also owns a dried and green fruit plant in Parlier, and a green fruit plant in Clovis. He has a twenty-acre fig orchard, twenty-acre vineyard and 320 acres of grain land, all in Fresno County. In January, 1919, he sold his fruit business to Kelley and Simpson, and for the time being retired from active operations in the fruit business to look after his own and father's ranch interests. Mr. Barnwell's father and a brother, D. M. Barnwell, Jr. (the present County Clerk of Fresno County), are the only members of the Barnwell family now living. Two sisters and the mother are deceased.

His wife was in maidenhood Miss Arah B. Holcomb of Texas, and they have one daughter, Achsah.

Mr. Barnwell has a large circle of acquaintances and is one of Fresno's well known and highly respected citizens, always to be found at the front in anything that pertains to the welfare and prosperity of the city of his choice. He is a prominent Elk, also a Shriner and a thirty-second degree Mason.

GEORGE R. SHIPP.—A Californian with many interesting memories of the past, particularly of some of the efforts made to secure a right of way for the Santa Fe Railroad, is George R. Shipp, whose father once offered the company 160 acres for a town site, but years later, when they finally built they chose another route. He was born in Holmes County, Miss., on October 29, 1865, and his father was William W. Shipp, also a native of Mississippi, where he first saw the light in 1834. He was reared in Holmes County and became a farmer; and he served throughout the Civil War. Grandfather Shipp was born in Kentucky, and later he removed to Mississippi. In that state William Shipp was married to Mary J. Strother, a daughter of Mississippi; and in 1868 he brought his wife and three children to California.

Leaving his family in Solano County, he made a trip down the coast and into the San Joaquin Valley, which he reached in the spring of 1868; and being impressed with Fresno County, he decided to locate here and took a preemption on Dry Creek. He returned to Solano County for his family, and then he and Major Nelson purchased a flock of sheep and drove them to Dry Creek, where he engaged in stock-raising.

He also homesteaded 160 acres and rapidly improved the land, and little by little he added more acreage; later he dissolved partnership with Major Nelson and they divided their band of sheep. The Major in 1877 (the dry year), drove his sheep to Arizona, but he lost them all. Mr. Shipp ranged his flock in the mountains and lost only 600 head out of 6,000. He prospered, bought more land, and finally had a ranch of 2,300 acres in a body. Aside from sheep-raising, he also engaged in the raising of grain.

In the fall of 1887 Mr. Shipp sold the land and turned the entire stock over to his son George R. to run them on another ranch he owned on the San Joaquin River, and then he moved to Fresno where he lived retired for a time. Later, however, he again engaged in sheep-raising on his San Joaquin River ranch, although he died at his home in Fresno in 1900. He was a prominent Mason and the father of ten children, two of whom died in Mississippi, while five are now living. Eliza C. has become Mrs. Ambrose of

Phoenix, Ariz.; George R. is the subject of this sketch; John N. lives at Fresno; Lela M. is Mrs. Neil of the same city; and near by dwells Mary E., Mrs. Hopkins.

Educated at the public schools in Mississippi district in this County and at a private school in Fresno, George assisted in caring for flocks from the time when he was eight years of age and soon became a well-posted and expert sheepman. When fifteen he took charge of the sheep on the range, and in 1887 he bought an interest in them. He also purchased an interest in the stock and took charge of them and the farm on the San Joaquin River, eighteen miles northeast of Fresno. Still later he leased land from the Bank of California, situated near Kerman, where he also ranged his sheep, in the summers taking them to the mountains.

Mr. Shipp also bought ranches near Reedley, and after that he bought in the Scandinavian Colony a vineyard ranch of thirty acres. Next he purchased 3,200 acres, the old home on the San Joaquin River, which he ran for five years and then sold. When sheep were excluded from the Forest Reserve, he started in the cattle business, and his brand, P. P., is one of the oldest in the county.

In 1913 Mr. Shipp sold his ranch and located in Fresno, and later he bought his present ranch of 160 acres on Blackstone Avenue, sixty-five acres of which are in peaches. He is setting out the balance in Calimyrna and white Adriatic figs, and bids fair again to make a great success of his enterprise. At 305 Clark Street he built his residence.

At the City of the Angels in 1891, Mr. Shipp was married to Miss Abbie W. Webster, a native of Vacaville, Solano County, Cal., and a daughter of G. W. and Jane (Smith) Webster, born in North Carolina and Tennessee respectively, California pioneers of the intrepid company that crossed the great plains with ox teams in 1852 and was a farmer in Vacaville, where Mrs. Shipp was reared. Two children blessed the union: Georgia, who is Mrs. Rheiner, and Harold W., a graduate of the high school, who was a despatch rider in the United States Army serving overseas, he is now ranching near Fresno.

Mr. Shipp is a democrat in national political affairs, and always an energetic supporter of non-partisan movements for the public weal. He belongs to Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. Elks.

EDWIN V. KELLEY.—The part played by science in industry, commerce, finance and even politics, is a subject of absorbing interest. California has for some time past employed a small army of chemists in almost every conceivable field, whose contributions to present-day progress it would be difficult to estimate, and without whose services it would not have been possible, in numerous cases, to reach the goal attained. Edwin V. Kelley belongs to this group of professional men to whom California owes much, and whose valued services she generously recognizes. He was born at Cadillac, Mich., on August 8, 1875, the son of William and Nancy (Van Ness) Kelley. He attended the grammar and high schools until he was sixteen, and after that he matriculated at the University of Michigan. He studied science at Ann Arbor, and spent three years profitably, concluding his courses of study. Leaving Michigan he went to Illinois, and at Joliet took service as a chemist with the Illinois Steel Company, with which concern he remained for a year. At the end of that time the company transferred him to their South Chicago plant; and there, for another year, he was active in the same capacity.

Mr. Kelley then came to Fresno and established a dry-fruit packing business, which at first met with reverses, due largely to the unsettled financial conditions of that time. This business he managed until 1902, and then moved to Fowler, attracted by an offer to become the manager of Chad-dock & Company, the fruit packers. He was in charge there for six years. Returning to Fresno, he became manager of the dried-fruit department of the



Wm. F. Leonard



Mary A. Venard

California Fruit Cannery Association, a post he held for a year and four months.

Having now gained a reputation for ability of a high order, and experience obtainable only in a practical way, Mr. Kelley was made manager of the J. K. Armsby Co., dried-fruit packers, in which position he was active until the first of November, 1916, when the company was merged with several others into the California Packing Corporation, and he became assistant manager of all their sixteen San Joaquin Valley packing houses. Since then, Mr. Kelley has been one of the most progressive and most influential leaders in his field, and now enjoys an enviable reputation throughout the state. On April 1, 1919, he resigned his position with the California Packing Corporation, and embarked in business for himself. He is now the senior member of the firm of Kelley & Simpson, who recently purchased the fruit-packing business of R. W. Barnwell.

While in Chicago, on August 1, 1900, Mr. Kelley was married to Lillian Frances Schoonmake, a charming woman whose life was closed all too early—in June, 1915. By her he had one child, Richard V., who is attending the Fresno high school. Mr. Kelley is active in civic affairs, doing his bit politically, generally under the banners of the Republican party. He is a member of the University Club, the Sequoia Club, and the Sunnyside Country Club of Fresno, as well as the University of Michigan Union; and he also belongs to the Elks.

WILLIAM F. VENARD.—Born near Havana, Mason County, Ill., on February 5, 1863, William F. Venard is the son of G. W. Venard, a native of Ohio, whose parents came from New Jersey. He moved to Kansas in 1857, then back to Illinois, and once more came to Kansas. In that state he settled in 1869, at Burlington; and there he still lives. Mrs. Venard was Anna E. Marshall before her marriage; she was born in Terre Haute, Ind., and in 1874 died in Kansas. She was the mother of four children, two of whom are still living.

The oldest child in the family, William F. was brought up in Kansas, and attended the public schools and Baker University at Baldwin City; and until 1885 he studied dentistry at Burlington. For three years he practiced dental surgery in Nebraska, and then he removed to Florence, Colo., where he continued his professional work. In 1889 he began in the oil business and worked up in it at Florence. Ten years later, he removed to California and Coalinga and for two months worked for L. L. Cory and associates on the New York lease. Then he was with Captain McClurg on Sec. 33-20-31, drilling for him for four and one-half years. In 1904, he returned to Colorado and worked as a driller until 1910, when he came back to Coalinga.

In February of that year he joined the Good Luck Oil Company as driller, and on the first of the following November, he was made field superintendent, and this responsible position he has held ever since. When he took charge, the company had only two wells, but since then they have put down six more, so that they now have eight first-class producers.

Aside from the oil business, Mr. Venard is greatly interested in viticulture. Some years ago, with his son, Charles E., he purchased seventy acres of raw land in Fresno County, between Reedley and Dinuba, which they set out to vineyard and orchard, and brought into bearing, when they sold it at a good profit. Since then he has bought other ranches and sold all but one which is devoted to orchard and vines.

At Burlington, Kans., on June 5, 1889, Mr. Venard was married to Miss Mary A. Throckmorton, a native of Kansas and the daughter of Job Throckmorton, who was born in Ohio and had married Catherine White and who was Provo Marshal during the Civil War. In 1857 they located at Burlington, and he was not only a successful farmer, but the county clerk of Coffey County, Kans., and a member of the assembly of the Kansas State Legislature. He died on his farm, survived by his widow who lives at Burlington.

Four children brightened the home of Mr. and Mrs. Venard, and three grew up: Charles E., at Reedley; William, assisting his father; and Eleanor, a graduate of the Coalinga High School and Heald's Business College, and head bookkeeper in the First National Bank at Coalinga.

Mr. Venard was made a Mason in the Lemoore Lodge, F. & A. M., in 1903, and he is now a member of Coalinga Lodge, No. 387, F. & A. M., and a member of Coalinga Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons. He and his wife are also members of the Eastern Star at Coalinga, and there, as elsewhere, are highly esteemed by many friends.

ALFRED BAIRD.—An authentic history of Fresno County would be very incomplete without the life story of one of its most honored and successful pioneer settlers and extensive land owners, the late Alfred Baird.

Great honor is due these courageous pioneers who endured the hardships incident to life on the frontier and risked their lives crossing the Indian infested plains, to blaze the way for later civilization and the establishment of homes and ranches. The descendants of these early settlers possess an inheritance of which they may well be proud and should speak the names of these valiant forerunners of civilization with pride and unbounded respect.

Alfred Baird was born in Richland County (now Ashland), Ohio, on November 16, 1829, a son of Josiah and Sarah (Ryland) Baird, natives of New York and Ohio respectively. The pioneer log home of Alfred's parents among the sturdy oak trees of the Ohio forest, was among his earliest recollections. His early schooling was received in a log building whose furniture consisted of slab benches, which afforded the children but little comfort, while the text books were very inferior to those used in the schools today and often the teachers were illy educated, yet children who were anxious to learn had no difficulty in acquiring a knowledge of the three Rs.

At the age of sixteen Alfred Baird became an apprentice to the carpenter's trade, in Ashland, Ohio, and after the expiration of two years' service as an apprentice he became a journeyman carpenter. In the spring of 1850, he left Ohio for McGregor, Iowa, where under the employment of a Mr. McGregor, he aided in the construction of some of the first houses in different towns in that section of Iowa, continuing in the building business for eight years.

Each day he earned enough to buy an acre of land and continued to invest in property until he had acquired 800 acres of land. Although prosperous to an unusual degree, Mr. Baird found the climate of Iowa too cold to be agreeable, so he sold out and in April, 1859, accompanied by his wife and two children, he started to cross the plains to California, and on October 8, they arrived safely at Kings River, Fresno County, subsequently settling in the Upper Kings River Valley, where he built a log cabin fourteen feet square. For a while he followed his trade of a carpenter in this locality, eventually taking up a homestead claim, building a comfortable house, and bringing a ditch from the mountains seven miles away. The terrible flood of 1861 destroyed his orchard and his new house, the barn being carried away by a strong current. Afterwards he engaged in the sheep business on shares, but the Civil War having caused a great depreciation in the price of wool, it was utilized in San Francisco for upholstering purposes; when the railroad was completed he was enabled to sell his wool for forty-five cents per pound. In 1868, Mr. Baird removed to Letcher, where he homesteaded a ranch and embarked in the sheep business and by good management his flocks increased until he owned at one time 5,000 head of sheep. Selling out his sheep in 1887, he entered the cattle raising business, also devoting considerable attention to raising grain. In those early days no one supposed that the grazing lands were adapted for grain, but by accident some barley hauled to the cattle was tramped into the ground and the rains caused it to sprout, producing as fine a crop of barley as if it had been regularly planted on cultivated ranch land. People quickly realized the possibilities of the grazing lands and soon grain

raising was supplanting the grazing of cattle. In other places where the land was almost too barren for sheep culture, it was found that it could be profitably utilized for vineyards and orchards, hence these occupations began to attract new settlers to this locality. By gradual purchase Mr. Baird acquired 6,000 acres of land in a body, situated fourteen miles east of Clovis, 3,500 acres being fine grain land. On section nineteen he erected a residence and the other buildings necessary to a model ranch. In addition to this vast tract he owned 640 acres known as the old Hughes place and another ranch near Visalia which contained 1,000 acres.

The first oranges in this part of the state were raised on his ranch. The pioneer work accomplished by Mr. Baird in stock-raising, ranching and horticulture was a great aid in the development of this region of Fresno County where he resided for so many years.

At Washington Prairie, Winneshiek County, Iowa, on February 17, 1853, occurred the marriage of Alfred Baird and Lydia K. Baird, a native of Yellow Springs, Greene County, Ohio, who was born on December 2, 1829. Her father, Benjamin Beard, a native of Pennsylvania, who had been a prominent farmer in Ohio, Indiana, and Iowa, and had officiated as an elder in the Presbyterian Church for fifty years, passed away in California at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Alfred Baird, having reached the advanced age of ninety-three years, and his wife, who in maidenhood had been Mary Ann Knott, a native of New Jersey, also came to California and spent her last days with her daughter, passing away at her home at the age of seventy-one years.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Baird were the parents of six children: Benjamin Morgan, now deceased; Addison, who died in Visalia at the age of twelve years; Lewis Edwin, also deceased; Mrs. Sarah A. Rutherford; Matie Ellen, who is also deceased; Florence G., who is Mrs. Rollo Keeler, of Tulare County.

Mr. Alfred Baird was an ardent admirer of Abraham Lincoln and cast a ballot for him in 1860, at Scottsburg, but the returns showed no Republican votes cast. In religious matters he contributed to the support of the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife has long been a member.

Mr. Baird and his wife lived to advanced years and spent their last years in the home of their son Morgan Baird, where they were tenderly cared for by Morgan and his wife. Mrs. Baird, who had been blind for many years, died in August, 1911, eighty-two years of age, and Alfred, after a long and useful life, passed away November 22, 1914.

ROBERT FRANKLIN ARMSTRONG.—Mr. Armstrong is one of the early settlers in the Lone Star district, having come here in 1889 with his father, and in 1891 having begun improving and planting the home ranch a half mile east of Lone Star. He was born in Madison County, Iowa, April 6, 1870, the son of William Armstrong, who was born in Holmes County, Ohio, four miles from Millersburg on Black Creek, May 2, 1849, and came to Iowa with his parents in the fall of 1852. The mother, Millie Stover, was a native of Iowa. The grandfather, John Armstrong, was born in Ireland and in his eighteenth year came to the United States; he was married in Ohio to Julia Bird, a native of Ohio.

R. F. Armstrong was fourteen years of age when his father settled in Fresno in 1884. He farmed with his father, raising grain near Fresno and Caruthers. He has always been loyal to his father, cooperating with him in every possible way. For five years they worked together, improving and planting, and then, in 1896, the son bought his first twenty acres, on which there are fifteen acres of muscat grapes. In 1901 he bought his second twenty, and in 1910 his third twenty, one mile east of Lone Star. This last is now in young vines and will soon be in full bearing. Ever since 1892 he has been engaged in growing raisin grapes.

On July 30, 1902, Mr. Armstrong was married, in Fresno, to Miss Myrtle L. Doyle, daughter of H. H. Doyle, an editor and newspaper man well

known in Fresno, and his wife, Jennie (Long) Doyle, who live in Los Angeles. Mrs. Armstrong was born in McPherson County, Kans., and was brought to California when but a child of four months. She came to Fresno with her parents in August, 1880. In 1882 the father was publishing the Daily Mirror in San Luis Obispo. The family lived in various localities where he followed the newspaper business, but they always liked Fresno County best. Here he was connected with the Fresno Republican. He is prominent in the counsels of the Republican party. Mr. and Mrs. Doyle had seven children, six of them girls, and only four are living, of whom Mrs. Armstrong is the oldest. She attended the grammar and high school in Santa Barbara County. She is now, and has been for the past four years, librarian at the Lone Star branch of the Fresno County Library. Mrs. Armstrong is a niece of the late Dr. B. W. Doyle, the pioneer dentist of Fresno County. She is prominent in the work of the Red Cross, and had charge of the work in Lone Star, while Mr. Armstrong took an active part in the Thrift Stamp Drive. They have three bright, hearty children living—Arylie E., Hugh M., and Wilma Frances—and two children died in infancy.

Mr. Armstrong is a stockholder and member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and of the California Peach Growers, Inc. He holds membership with the I. O. O. F. in Fresno, and is an ex-trustee of the Lone Star school district. He has a younger brother, Leslie B., in France, a member of the Twentieth Regiment of Forest Engineers; and four sisters.

MRS. ANNA LINDQUIST.—A noble-hearted woman of exceptional accomplishment in her work for the general betterment of the world, who adds to most excellent womanly and motherly qualities rare executive force and unusual business ability, is Mrs. Anna Lindquist, widow of the late Peter Lindquist, who owns, operates and resides upon the Lindquist home place of sixty acres on Harrison Avenue, three miles northeast of Kingsburg. She was born in Sweden, on March 25, 1848, the daughter of Erick and Anna (Larson) Erickson, who had a small but very comfortable farm. When her father died, he was fifty-six years old; although her mother reached the advanced age of eighty. Her father had been previously married and had two sons; and by his second marriage he had, besides the subject of our sketch, a son and a daughter. She was brought up in the staid Lutheran Church of Sweden, and when fourteen was duly confirmed.

In 1869 she came to America and settled for a while at Ishpeming, Mich., and four years later she married Peter Lindquist, a native of West Mollond, Munk Torp, Sweden, where he was born on July 23, 1843. He came to America as early as 1870, and went to Marinette, Wis.; and later he came to Ishpeming, Mich. He was a shoemaker by trade and established himself in that business; and in that line he continued until 1875 when, finding his occupation too confining, he decided to take up farming. He moved to Henry County, Iowa, and in 1877 to New Sweden, the same state; and the following year he took up a homestead in Phelps County, Nebr., and in time proved it up. In 1887 he and his good wife moved still further west, to California; and having looked over Kingsburg and come to appreciate the advantages here, he bought the ranch land where Mrs. Lindquist now lives. After improving it handsomely, he lost it through a mortgage; but he bought it back later and acquired another eighty acres, so that he owned at one time 120 acres.

In addition, Mr. Lindquist owned a section of 640 acres in Tulare County, on the other side of Kings River, which he bought for colonization. He sold some, and had he lived, he would have become wealthy. As it was, he was forced to borrow; and when he died, on November 22, 1904, and his widow became the administratrix, she had no option but to sell all of the Tulare land;



Mrs Anna Lindquist

after which the 120 acres was divided, sixty acres going to Mrs. Lindquist, and ten to each of the six children then living.

Eight children really blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Lindquist and honored the name of their lamented father: Charles G. married Anna Carlson, and is a rancher; and they have three children—Burt, Irene and Margery. Alfred T. married Christine Plote, a native of Minnesota; and he is ranching near Kingsburg. Tilda O. married Thomas F. Gardner, and lived for a while at Selma; she had two sons, Marion and Laurence; and both of them, while attending the Kingsburg high school, now reside in Kingsburg. Victor is farming near Kingsburg, on the west. Albert, who owns with Victor the ranch of 160 acres west of Kingsburg, married Lillian Lightheart. Fritz died when he was twelve years of age. George A., who graduated from the Kingsburg high school and also attended the College of the Pacific at San Jose for a couple of years, ordinarily makes his home with his mother, but is now serving his country in the United States Army.

Mrs. Lindquist, who endeavors to be a Christian and lets her light shine particularly through the organized work of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church, of which she is a member, as was her devout husband also, is known as an uncompromising Prohibitionist, and no one who understands the shadow cast by strong drink and gambling over her family circle will question the propriety of her views and acts in endeavoring to banish from society one of the worst curses that has deranged and enchained man.

THOMAS H. ZINN.—As superintendent of the Sanger Lumber Company, T. H. Zinn became closely identified with the interests of Fresno County during the ten years that he held that responsible position. A native of Missouri, he was born in 1862, the son of George and Martha Zinn, natives of Indiana. They were parents of eight children: Nancy J., who was the wife of G. W. Finks, and who died in 1918; Lovis, who died when young; Jerome V., associated with his brother Thomas H. in the Sanger Feed and Fuel Company; Clara E., who became Mrs. G. M. Zinn; Richard, who died in early childhood; Lillian the wife of William Rhodes; Thomas H., our subject; and Joseph P.

T. H. Zinn was reared and educated in Missouri. The major portion of his life has been spent in the lumber business in one way or another. In 1903 he migrated to the Golden State and in 1909 he located in Fresno County. For ten years he held the important position of superintendent of the Sanger Lumber Company, whose extensive plant covers sixty acres situated in the city of Sanger. While with this firm he had under his supervision from ninety to one hundred men. The superintendent of such an extensive business has a multitude of duties and great responsibilities, and that Mr. Zinn for so many years successfully managed the affairs of the company proves him to be a man of force of character and business acumen.

In 1888, T. H. Zinn was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Peyton, a native of Texas; and of this union three children were born: Edna T., wife of a Mr. Clark who is now in the service of the United States as a civil engineer, during the World War; and George P. and Thomas H., Jr. Mr. Zinn owned a small ranch which was devoted to a vineyard, located within the city limits of Sanger, and this he sold in 1918 at a good profit. On June 1, 1918, he resigned from his position with the lumber company, and has since given his entire time to the interests of the business of the Sanger Feed and Fuel Company, which he and his brother have owned for some years. Thomas H. Zinn is an active member of the Baptist Church, which he serves as a deacon. He is greatly interested in the upbuilding of the prosperous and growing city of Sanger, and has had the honor of serving as a trustee of the city and also of the Sanger High School.

T. C. WHITE.—Something more than ordinary business sagacity is needed to attain to the success reached by T. C. White, the capitalist, and more than the good will of his fellow men is deserved by him for his contribution to the establishing here of the soundest commercial and financial conditions. Born in 1850 at Essex, four miles from Lake Champlain, Chittenden County, Vt., he was the son of Calvin and Hannah (Furman) White, both of good old New England stock; and in the public schools of Essex he obtained his elementary education. Later he attended Burlington College in the same state.

Coming to California in 1877, he located in Fresno County, soon purchased land, and in time, developed Central California's first raisin vineyard. As a raisin grower, he came to occupy offices of responsibility and also gained an international reputation. He was once president of the old Producers Packing Company, the first co-operative raisin association in the state, and a prime mover and organizer as well as a director and treasurer of the California Raisin Growers Association. His products have taken many premiums, among which may be mentioned the special gold medal of the Mechanics Institute Fair at San Francisco. He also received a special gold medal from the San Joaquin Valley Fair, and diplomas and awards from state and world fairs. In 1893 he was chosen as the judge for the State of California to award the premiums for all products at the World's Fair at Chicago, and such practical knowledge of fruit culture as has been necessary in his own fortunate growing, made him the best of judges at well-known fairs—an honorable appointment frequently conferred upon him. Mr. White is more or less familiar with every phase of the fruit industry as they are represented in California, and has also grown deciduous fruits.

On November 27, 1877, Mr. White was married to Miss Augusta Fink, born in Wisconsin, by whom he has had one son, Harry F. White, for some time past associated with his father in business.

In 1892, Mr. White entered the real estate field, and in realty he is now making new conquests. He has bought and sold thousands of acres, and by helping to secure better transportation facilities, has enabled the settler more rapidly to realize from his investment, and the community to sooner build up. As a firm, T. C. & H. F. White are extensively interested in San Joaquin Valley lands, while the son also represents the North River and City of New York Fire Insurance Company. Mr. White owns the corner of I and Merced Streets, 150x150 feet, 50x150 feet having been improved with a three-story building many years ago. Seeing the need for a modern theater building, and the time being ripe, he improved the balance of the lot with the New White Theater, 100x150 feet. This is one of the most modern theaters in the state, special attention having been given to ventilating, cooling, heating, safety and fire escapes. The theater has a seating capacity of 1,500, and is the largest in the Valley. The front is built four stories and is fitted up especially for the University Club, of which Mr. White is an honorary member. He also owns other valuable business and resident property in Fresno, and also valuable ranch property in Fresno, Kings and Madera Counties.

Mr. White has for years been an important factor in the civic life of the county, has served several times as a member of the board of supervisors, and now and then as chairman of that body. While acting as the chairman, the old canal or ditch on Silvia Road and Fresno Street had become a nuisance, and dangerous as well. Silvia Road was in his road district and he gave orders to the overseer to fill it in above Fresno Street outside of the city. It was begun and finished on a Sunday, thus stopping the water from running into Fresno Street. The people of the city at once began to fill in the ditch in town, thereby doing away with the nuisance and Fresno Street has become a leading thoroughfare. Mr. White has been a director of the Twenty-first Agricultural District many years. In 1889 he

helped to organize the first National Bank of Fresno, and has been a member of the board of directors ever since, also served as vice-president and secretary; he is also interested in other Central California banking institutions. He is a large stockholder and a director in the Fresno Hotel Company, a corporation which, in 1913, erected at a cost of about \$350,000 and today worth over half a million dollars, the fine Hotel Fresno, and this last investment is but a fair illustration of the manner in which Mr. White has always sought to build up the city. As a wide-awake, untiring "booster," he has served as president of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce.

C. E. BEAUMONT.—Among the leading lawyers of the Fresno Bar is C. E. Beaumont, who was born at Mayfield, Ky., August 27, 1883, a son of E. S. and May V. (Worham) Beaumont, the former a well-known newspaper man in his locality. C. E. Beaumont attended private and public schools in his native state and also the Kentucky State University, and later took the study of law at Cumberland University, in Lebanon, Tenn., from which he was graduated in 1910. He then came direct to Fresno and for a time was employed in the office of S. L. Carter, and later with the law firm of Harris and Harris. Going then to Fort Worth, Texas, he was admitted to practice law and spent one year in that city. His previous residence in California, however, had given him an opportunity to get in close touch with the people, and he liked the country. He felt the call to return so strongly that he came back to Fresno and had an office with E. A. Williams for two years, when he entered the office of the district attorney on March 1, 1914, as a deputy. He performed the duties of his office with much satisfaction to all concerned, and at the same time was widening his circle of friends in various parts of the county. Being familiar with the duties of his office, he decided to become a candidate for district attorney of Fresno County, made a vigorous canvas of the voters, and at the primary election held in August, 1918, received a majority of the votes cast, which eliminated his two opponents and elevated him to the office, a signal honor. His success in office is the result of hard work, good business management and judgment, and his selection of able assistants.

C. E. Beaumont was married on December 6, 1915, to Miss Lucy Madden, of Fresno, who shares with her husband the good-will and esteem of all who know them. They are members of the First Presbyterian Church. Mr. Beaumont is a member of the Masons, the Elks, the Knights of Pythias, the University Club and the college fraternity Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Politically he is a Democrat. He is a supporter of the various movements for the advancement of the state and county where he has elected to make his home.

ADEN A. LOWE.—Aden A. Lowe, the enterprising agent for the Willys Overland automobiles and the former accommodating proprietor of the Kerman Garage, was born in Parnell, Mo., in 1891, the son of George S. Lowe, a native of Illinois. His father was a thorough-going farmer, who did his part in maintaining the reputation of the Iron State for bumper crops; but having become convinced that California offered inducements not to be found in the East, he brought his family West in 1907, and settled at Kerman. From the beginning he engaged in ranching, and with a couple of well-selected vineyards he went in for viticulture. Later, giving up farming, he sold and bought business properties; and in that field he is now engaged, making Kerman his headquarters. Mrs. Lowe was Frances Glaze before her marriage. Of her union with Mr. Lowe eight children were born, of whom six grew to maturity. Aden was the sixth of these, in the order of birth. He attended the well-organized schools in Missouri, and with his folks came to Kerman in 1907. For three years he assisted his father, under whose guidance he learned to cultivate foresight and to be conservative while at the same time willing to venture.

When he was nineteen, Mr. Lowe started out for himself, opening a barber-shop in Kerman. Of pleasing personality, he never wanted for patronage; and in the barber-business he remained until 1915. Then he sold out and began in the business wherein he has been so exceptionally successful—the auto trade. He became agent for the Willys-Overland automobile, for the Kerman section of Fresno County, and also opened a garage. He formed a partnership with Mr. Patterson, under the firm name of Patterson & Lowe, and became one of the proprietors of the Kerman Garage. This business was carried on successfully until January 1, 1919, when, desiring a wider field, he dissolved partnership with Mr. Patterson and secured the agency for the same car for Madera County. He secured the lease of a new brick fire-proof garage, 55 by 150 feet, on C and Sixth Street, Madera, where he is now located and where, by his assiduous attention to every want of his many patrons, he has the satisfaction of offering thoroughly reliable service and convenient accommodation to the touring public and local car owners.

In Fresno Mr. Lowe was married to Miss Bertha Leisman, a native of Missouri, by whom he has had one son, Raymond. Few men could boast of a happier home. Mr. Lowe is a member of the Woodmen of the World. In politics he is a Democrat.

WILLIAM A. LOCKIE.—When the real history of the State of California comes to be written, and credit is given to the rank and file of those who laid the foundations of this great commonwealth, and especially to the few who had such foresight and courage that they naturally became leaders and had much to do with guiding the ship of state, then will the historian not fail to record the simple but eloquent story of the late William A. Lockie, whose life closed on March 8, 1918, in his seventy-second year. "Death has again invaded our community," wrote the local newspaper chronicler of that time, "taking one who has long resided here, who has witnessed a remarkable change in the growth and transformation of this section, and who now, in the sunset of his life, passes on, leaving a memory of kindly deeds and noble aspirations."

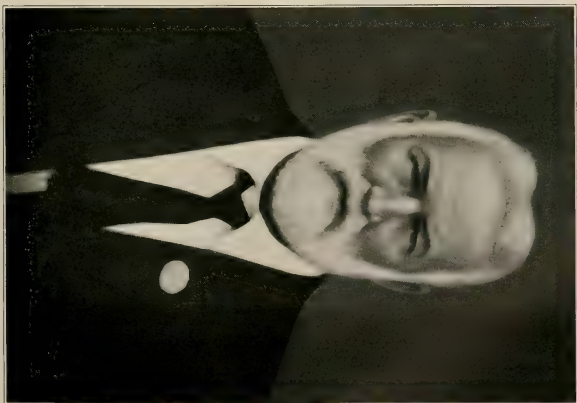
Mr. Lockie was born in Woodstock, Canada, on January 4, 1846, and when only nineteen years of age he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Leithead, who was his constant, loving and devoted companion for forty-six years, when she was called to the bourne from which no traveler returns. The value of her life to him is best shown in the fact that, after her natural but still untimely death, on March 29, 1912, Mr. Lockie had suffered from insupportable loneliness, and seemed to lose interest in earthly affairs. He suffered an attack of apoplexy a week previous to his demise from which he did not rally, for although he was apparently in robust health, the arteries had hardened, and his vitality was impaired. Nothing could be done to relieve him, and he yielded to Nature the great debt expected, sooner or later, from us all. This taking-off bereft especially the following sons and daughters: Thomas S.; Robert M.; John K.; Lillie I., Mrs. J. W. Pugh; William S.; Frank J.; Jessie M., Mrs. W. A. Wilkins; Margaret B.; Laura I., Mrs. G. A. Rigby; and Mattie A., Mrs. John Wilkins.

Mr. Lockie was long looked upon as an exemplary citizen, and the local chronicler already referred to reflected the sentiments of the neighbors and friends of the deceased when he further wrote: "During his residence of twenty-six years in Fowler community, Mr. Lockie had proven to be an honorable and upright man, highly respected by all who knew him, and a noble and indulgent father to his family of five sons and five daughters, all of whom survive him, together with sixteen grandchildren. The community has lost a man of sterling qualities in the death of Mr. Lockie."

After his marriage in Canada, Mr. Lockie came to California in 1870, settled in Solano County, where for several years he rented land, and then moved to Oregon. For seven years he raised sheep and stock in Lake County,



Margaret Loebe



Mr. H. Loebe



Sarah Frances Pugh H. B.

and then he went into cotton culture in Texas, choosing Weatherford, thirty miles from Ft. Worth, as the most favorable ranch land. Returning to California in 1887, Mr. Lockie rented the Brown ranch, two miles north of Fowler, but after a year he bought the first instalment of his home ranch, now so widely known as a model farm. He began with twenty acres, but came to own nine times that area of highly-cultivated farm land. His fine residence, built in 1907, cost \$6,000, and his ranch was made the more valuable through a full complement of farm buildings.

SARAH FRANCES PUGH, D. O.—An osteopathic physician of unusual ability, who has been successfully practicing her profession in Fresno since 1904, is Sarah Frances Pugh, the subject of this sketch. She is a descendant of a pioneer family of California, although a native of Lewis County, Mo.

When California caused the world to vibrate with the news of its wonderful wealth, and caravans of prairie schooners drawn by slow going oxen were crossing the trackless plains, in the "days of old, the days of gold, the days of '49," it was then that Jane Pugh, the grandmother of Dr. Pugh, accompanied by the doctor's two uncles, Aaron and John Pugh, and two aunts, Esther and Eleanor Pugh, made her advent into the state of California. Grandmother Pugh returned to her old home in Missouri in 1875, where she passed to her reward in 1881. Four sons of the above pioneer John Pugh, are now numbered among the prominent men of San Joaquin Valley. Sarah Frances Pugh is the daughter of Matthias and Hannah (McWilliams) Pugh, natives of Ohio and Kentucky, respectively, who were pioneers in Lewis Co., Mo. The father entered government land and resided on it till he died at the age of eighty-two and one-half years. His wife having preceded him several years, passed away at the age of sixty-five. Matthias Pugh served in a Missouri regiment in the Civil War.

Dr. Sarah F. Pugh received her early education in the common schools of Missouri, after the completion of which she became a teacher of instrumental music. Being possessed of a kindly and sympathetic nature, she took up nursing the sick, which experience no doubt was a potent factor in leading her to the decision to become an osteopathic physician. Her first course in this interesting and helpful science, which has accomplished such wonderful and restorative results and alleviated the sufferings of humanity, was taken in Dr. Ward's School of Osteopathy at Kirksville, Mo. It was in this town that the late Dr. A. T. Still, the discoverer of the science, formerly resided. In 1902, Dr. Pugh graduated from Dr. S. S. Still's College of Osteopathy at Des Moines, Iowa. Later she pursued a course in bacteriology and gynecology. Before locating in Fresno, Dr. Pugh practiced her profession in St. Louis.

In 1916 Dr. Pugh took a post graduate course at Kansas City, Mo., in diagnosis and treatment of the eye, ear, nose, and throat; and in 1917 she supplemented her knowledge on these subjects by a course of study at Los Angeles, Cal. She is at present specializing on these treatments, for which she has been so thoroughly prepared. Dr. Pugh has built up a large practice in Fresno and other sections of the San Joaquin Valley. She is a member of the State and National Association of Osteopaths, also of the American Osteopathic Society of Ophthalmology and Oto Laryngology. Dr. Pugh is considered an expert on these subjects and is the author of several articles on these special treatments.

Dr. Sarah F. Pugh is fast winning an enviable reputation as a skilful and conscientious practitioner, and can look forward to a long and useful career.

Fraternally, she is a member of the Daughters of Veterans of the Civil War, and is Past Department President of California and Nevada. She is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star and belongs to the Baptist Church.

JEFFERSON M. SHANNON.—When the great history of California shall have been written, in which men and women of note receive their true place in the high lights of a larger perspective according to real shadow that each casts, then will there loom large, as of commanding stature, the late Jefferson M. Shannon, a man of great foresight, executive power and sterling integrity, well-known in his day to Millerton and Fresno as an undersheriff and politician of high order. The Shannon family goes back to Ireland, and includes, in its various ramifications in this country, Wilson Shannon, the governor of Ohio and later of Kansas, and once United States Minister to Mexico; Effie Shannon, the actress, and James J. Shannon, the portrait painter long distinguished in the art circles of Europe. The earliest records of this particular branch of the Shannon family go back to the date of the birth of Nathaniel Shannon, Jefferson's grandfather, and these records, so very interesting, are found in the Shannon family Bible, which has been handed down from generation to generation, until it is now in the possession of Miss L. Danie Shannon, late of Palmyra, Mo., and now at Fresno. There is an entry, "Nathaniel Shannon was born 22nd Feby., 1763," and another, "Isabelle Shannon, wife of N. Shannon, was born 22nd Feby., 1772"—a curious coincidence, by the way, as to Washington's Birthday. From the same records we learn that Nathaniel Shannon, Jr., the father of our subject, was born on December 31, 1800, in Kentucky, and that he there married Mary Nall, also a Kentuckian, after which he came out to Hannibal, Mo., the town destined to be made forever famous as the boyhood haunt of Mark Twain. Later, he settled near Palmyra on a farm of several hundred acres, where he brought up his family.

There were eight children, named Warren, Maletia, Jefferson Milam, Daniel Johnson, Cynthia Quinn, Martin Alexander, Isabella Lucy and Laura Dulcena, called L. Danie, the only child now living; and these, with their mother, Mr. Shannon left in Missouri, while he came overland with oxen in 1849, reaching Sacramento in the fall. He engaged in mining at Placerville or Hangtown as it was then called; but while butchering a beef accidentally cut his hand so that he died from lock-jaw, on March 1, 1852, at Diamond Springs, Cal. Grandmother Shannon, who had remained in Missouri with her three daughters and two sons, eventually died in that state.

Jefferson Shannon, who was born on November 8, 1831, grew up in Missouri long enough to attend the common schools; but in the great year of the Argonauts, when he was eighteen years old, he engaged to drive a team across the great plains. The company he was with was detained on the Donner Trail, which proved impassable, and they were so badly delayed that they did not get through to Fort Sutter until the spring of 1850. He thus came to the Golden State at a somewhat later time than his intrepid father; but like the latter, he mined, and also engaged in butchering, selling meat and groceries to the mining camps. He also took up farm work, spending a couple of years at Vacaville on the Wilson ranch.

He came to Millerton about 1859 and went into blacksmithing; and it was while he labored there at the forge that he became acquainted with Gillum Baley and his family, and married his daughter, Miss Rebecca Margaret Baley, who was the first school teacher at Millerton. At the time of his marriage, Mr. Shannon, besides being a blacksmith, was deputy sheriff of Fresno County, under the late Scott Ashman, his brother-in-law, and he served in that office of responsibility until 1867. Upon the advent of the first railroad to Fresno he became the first station agent.

Mr. Shannon early became acquainted with Leland Stanford, Collis P. Huntington, Mark Hopkins and Charles Crocker who were popularly known as the "Big Four" of the Central Pacific and the Southern Pacific railways, and through them, in the beginning of the seventies, was connected with the Pacific Improvement Co., the holding company of the Southern Pacific railway. He sold the town lots for the Pacific Improvement Company at about the time when the road was being built from Stockton to Fresno, the

sales taking place in Fresno. In 1873 choice corner lots in the downtown business district sold for \$500 each; other lots sold at \$125; while lots lying further out went for \$62.50, and the residence portion was sold in blocks.

Through Mr. Shannon's influence with the Pacific Improvement Company the Court House Park was donated by the company to the county, and so were the sites for the first Catholic Church at the corner of M and Fresno Streets, and of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church, at the corner of L and Fresno Streets. In his capacity as representative of the land department of the Pacific Improvement Company, Mr. Shannon laid out and sold off sites of the various cities and towns on the Southern Pacific system throughout California and even into Arizona, being general townsite agent for the said Pacific Improvement Company from El Paso, Texas, to San Francisco.

As a proper reward for such years of strenuous and faithful service, Mr. Shannon became well-to-do. He owned eight lots in Fresno at the corner of J and Fresno Streets, between Fresno and Mariposa, and there he built the far-famed, if modest Shannon residence, whose hospitable doors swung open to high and low, rich and poor, and where children in particular were very welcome. There are still living those who will recall the pleasure of Mr. Shannon in handing out to the young folks watermelons and other fruit grown on his property now in the very heart of Fresno. He set out an orange grove, and the old Church Canal furnished water for irrigation, flowing down Fresno Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Shannon were married at old Fort Miller, and all of their four children were born at Millerton. The elder is Mary Idria, now the wife of W. E. Thoms, and resides at 1547 North N Street; the second in the order of birth is Scott A., familiarly known as "Fred" Shannon, well-known in Fresno County; Sidney J. is deputy United States Marshal at Fresno; and Leland Stanford Shannon, manager of the Shannon Bros. ranch. In 1888, Mr. Shannon moved to Alameda, and there the boys were schooled. Mr. Shannon became the owner of 480 acres four miles north of Selma, where he set out a vineyard of about ninety acres, mostly of malaga grapes, for he was a pioneer planter of the malagas. In addition to their own four children, the worthy couple reared a niece, Miss Jane Eleanor Ashman, now Mrs. James Ferguson of Coalinga.

Mr. Shannon died at Alameda on June 8, 1902, and his good wife passed away there, also, on September 5, 1906. Both lie buried in the Mountain View Cemetery at Oakland.

ZANE POTTER.—Born in Pike County, Ill., August 28, 1860, Zane Potter is a descendant of pioneers of that county. His father, John Potter, of Irish descent, was an early settler there, and there his death occurred, at the age of sixty-six and one-half years. John Potter married Lucretia Cochran, born either in Ohio or Virginia, of German ancestry and to this pioneer couple eleven children were born, seven boys and four girls. Of these, four boys and three girls are living, and Zane Potter is the only one in California.

Zane Potter grew to manhood on his father's farm in Illinois, close to the small town of Baylis. In 1886 he came to Fresno County, from Missouri, and settled in Fresno, where he lived until 1890, after which he became foreman of the A. Sach's vineyard of 160 acres, a position he held for four years. He then went to San Francisco and visited the Midwinter Fair, after which he went back to Illinois and Missouri to visit relatives. In 1895 he returned to California and again settled in Fresno County, buying forty acres of land in the Lone Star district, which he improved and planted, and finally sold. Later he bought forty acres of land again, upon which he erected a comfortable home, and in 1908 added an adjoining ranch of twenty acres to his holdings, and now owns sixty acres with two sets of buildings. For five years he leased the ranch out and made his residence in Fresno, at 2815

Madison Avenue. He prefers a ranch home to a city one, however, and moved back to his ranch in January, 1918.

On October 14, 1883, in Pike County, Ill., Mr. Potter was married to Martha A. Rutherford, and soon after their marriage they went to Pike County, Mo., where Mr. Potter rented a farm for two years, before coming to California. He attributes much of his success to his estimable wife, who is one of the best of mothers. They have had three children, but two of these have died, one at eleven years and five months, and the other at eight months. The daughter living is now the wife of A. N. Dillingham, jewelry salesman for A. S. Shaddow, of Fresno.

Since coming to Fresno County Mr. Potter has taken a place in the musical circles of this section as a singer in Walberg's Male Chorus. He taught singing in both Missouri and California, and ever since boyhood his voice has been heard in church choirs in the different communities where he has lived. Mr. Potter is a member of the Odd Fellows, and of the Raisin Growers' Association.

CLAUDE C. LAVAL.—In Claude C. Laval, expert commercial photographer, Fresno possesses a citizen who stands in the front rank in the State of California in his chosen profession. He was born in New York City, November 8, 1882, and received his education in the schools of New York, Brooklyn and Chicago. He began to make his way in the world at the early age of fifteen, and was in the employ of the J. C. Barr Engineering Company at Pittsburgh, Pa., as architect and civil engineer. He was also foreman in charge of the steel mill erected at Monongahela, Pa., for the Cochocton Iron Works. In 1901, at the age of nineteen, he took up his life work of photography, being employed by the R. W. Johnston Studios of Pittsburgh, the second largest firm of its kind in the state. During the five years he was with the firm he devoted his entire time to the commercial branch of the business and received a thorough training in the art.

In October, 1906, Mr. Laval came to Fresno and was for a time in the employ of Dr. Chester Rowell. He then formed a partnership with C. H. Atkinson in the Angelus Studio, still devoting his time to commercial photography. After one year of partnership he started in business for himself in that branch of the work, with his studio and developing room at 656 N. Van Ness Avenue. He is the pioneer in modern commercial photography in Fresno, brought the first circuit camera and the first smokeless flash apparatus to the city, and was also the first to successfully photograph banquet gatherings. He has been very successful in his chosen line of work and is probably the best-known and most expert outdoor commercial photographer in Central California. His reputation, indeed, has spread to all parts of the state. He was exclusively the photographer at the famous Jennie Crocker wedding, being specially called to San Francisco for that occasion, and took forty-two pictures of the affair in the pavilion and church. He was also called to San Francisco to photograph the meeting of the Federation of Woman's Clubs at the Cliff House. He holds the record in Fresno for taking flash-light pictures of a banquet, having brought back the finished picture in thirty minutes' time. He brought the first motion picture camera to Fresno, and took and developed 50,000 feet of films for the San Francisco and San Diego Fairs in 1915. He is the official photographer for the San Joaquin Valley Counties Association, which represents eight counties. He is the photographer for the Gaumont Weekly, taking motion pictures for it in the valley from Stockton to Bakersfield. These are shown at all the leading picture theaters in the country, and in doing this work he has been the means of giving much publicity to Fresno County, spreading its fame all over the world. He does all the commercial work for the California Raisin Association and the California Peach Growers' Association, and all of the Fresno Republican's work, photographing all fires and



B. F. Cotton

accidents for that paper. He also specializes in making enlargements. Sixty-four of the largest enlargements on exhibition at the San Francisco fair in 1915 were made by him. These were forty inches by eight feet in size. His enlargements for a window display for the Wonder Store in Fresno attracted much attention; they were six feet by nine feet in size, the largest ever made in Fresno County. He has taken motion picture views in mountain and valley in the San Joaquin Valley and filmed pictures on the top of Mount Keyser, 10,300 feet above sea level. These were on exhibition at the San Francisco and San Diego fairs in 1915 as official pictures from Fresno County. He has also done the motion picture work for the Fresno County Horticultural Commission, photographing the grape leaf hopper and fig wasp, giving enlarged views of these pests that destroy the fruit and vine. This was his own idea.

In August, 1918, F. C. Ninnis became associated with Mr. Laval, the firm name becoming Laval and Ninnis. The latter has been engaged in commercial photography in California since 1895, and in Fresno County since 1904. The equipment of the laboratory of this enterprising firm is conceded to be the most modern and complete of its kind in the entire state.

Mr. Laval married Miss Sadie M. Cheesman, a native of Pennsylvania, and they are the parents of two children, Claude C., Jr., and Virginia May. Mr. Laval is a member of the Fresno Lodge of Knights of Pythias.

BENJAMIN F. COTTON.—A pioneer of Fresno County of 1881, B. F. Cotton has been very closely identified with the section now within the vicinity of Sanger and has won a place for himself in the esteem of the citizens of the county by his integrity of character and public spirit. He was born on July 31, 1862, near the town of Cottontown, Tenn., which place was named in honor of his ancestors, who were early settlers in Sumner County and were slave-owners. The family originally came from North Carolina. His parents were John and Patience (Edwards) Cotton, who had seven children, three of whom are now living: M. A., who came to California in 1875 and is now living in Visalia; W. C., still living near Cottontown, Tenn.; and B. F., of this review.

B. F. Cotton was educated in the grammar and high schools of his native state, and after his school days were over came to Fresno County, Cal., to join a brother who had pioneered it here since 1875. At that time there were but a few vineyards in the entire county, the area being given to grain-farming, with little thought of the possibilities for viticultural development. He first located on some land three miles from what is now the site of Sanger, no thought having been given to the possibility of a town in this location at the time. He devoted himself to farming, and in 1887 was elected to the important office of justice of the peace, serving two years. So closely has he been identified with the interests of this part of the county that he is properly considered a pioneer, having had to do with every project that has been put forth to build up the locality. The confidence of his friends was again expressed when he was recently elected to the office he had held in 1887, this time for a four-year term, which he is now serving, dealing out justice with the impartiality so characteristic of him.

On May 1, 1888, Judge Cotton was united in marriage with Miss Anna Cody, daughter of Truman and Mary Cody. Truman Cody is a cousin of the famed "Buffalo Bill" Cody of Wild West fame. Of this union of Mr. and Mrs. Cotton three children were born, two of whom are now living: William E., who married Anna Zinn, by whom he has a son, Elmer Thomas; and Mrs. Grace V. Brumbaugh, the mother of two children, Helen and Benjamin. The Judge is a member of Court Sanger, No. 617, I. O. O. F., at Sanger, and of the Sanger Chamber of Commerce. He is an active member of the Christian Church, is a man who is considered one of the dependable citizens of the growing town of Sanger, and is esteemed by all who know him.

GRANVILLE HARTMAN WALLEY.—Among the pioneer contractors of Fresno, who, by far-reaching foresight, an unusual spirit of enterprise and the employment of only the most up-to-date methods and devices, have contributed much to the development of both Fresno and Central California, must be rated, in the first rank, George H. Walley, who was born near Valley Forge in Chester County, Pa., on January 6, 1850, and when only sixteen started to learn the carpenter's trade in Philadelphia. While working there, he helped erect the Falmouth Market, long one of the notable landmarks in the City of Brotherly Love. In 1870 he removed to La Salle County, Ill., and for three years worked in Ottawa at his trade. He also owned a ranch of eighty acres in Iroquois County, and farmed the same himself. Catching the gold fever in 1876, he started with a party of thirteen on saddle horses and pack animals for the Black Hills; but before they reached the mines, they were attacked by Indians and several of the company were killed. Mr. Walley himself, after a vigorous fight, was shot in the leg and so badly wounded that he was laid up for eight months. The party kept the Indians at bay and retreated for three days after he was wounded, making Deadwood in safety. It was very difficult in those days to get medical or surgical attention, and such as could be secured was none of the best; and the result was that the sick and wounded languished and suffered in a way that is but faintly realized by those who have come after and reaped the benefits of their pioneering.

In 1877 Mr. Walley went to Colorado and located in Denver, being employed at his trade; and in 1878 he went to Leadville, and mined for five years. He swung the pick in the Monarch Mine and at Bonanza Creek and suffered many hardships; and later he worked at his trade in Maysville, Colo., where his cleverness in solving problems of the moment and incidental to the raw conditions of the times was much appreciated.

In the fall of 1879 Mr. Walley arrived in California, and having looked over the ground and rapidly sized up the advantages of the several sections, he was ready to settle in Fresno by the following spring. It was then but a small and not particularly ambitious town, as one may well imagine from the fact that lots on Fresno Street sold for sixty dollars, while corner lots commanded only \$125. This condition of realty attracted Mr. Walley, and he both bought and sold much unimproved property. He also bought a couple of ranches—one of eighty acres on the east of Fowler, and the other of twenty acres, three-fourths of a mile east of Selma. Both were raw land; but with his usual enterprise, Mr. Walley set out a peach orchard and planted alfalfa, and when he was ready to make a good showing, at the end of three years he sold out.

During this time, he did contracting and building, and in both Fowler and Selma erected a number of brick structures for store purposes. Finding that he was better adapted for that line of undertaking, he settled in Fresno and followed his trade with vigorous competition. He became both a builder and a contractor, and since then he has erected over two hundred buildings. This brought him into nearly all the cities and towns of Fresno County, and into many places in the San Joaquin Valley. In Fresno he erected the Meade, Ball and Fisk blocks, the Tubercular Ward, County Hospital, and numerous fine residences. In Coalinga he put up the Akers Block and the Skating Pavilion, and the best of the town's store buildings. In Kerman he built two hotels and two apartment houses. Each and every one of these buildings probably would have done credit to places and periods supposed to have been much in advance of these growing California towns.

Mr. Walley has also built a number of houses of his own in Fresno, and at present he is the owner of seven, among which is a fine apartment house on Illinois and Second Streets, of from two to five rooms. He owns an apartment house in Coalinga, and also four lots at Fifth and D Streets in

that town. Lately he retired from active work and builds only to serve some old friend, who knows the class of work he is accustomed to do and will not accept no for an answer.

While in Colorado Mr. Walley was married to Mary Kraft, a native of Illinois, who has proved a most excellent wife and mother. One of their daughters is now the wife of George Donohue, the agent of the Southern Pacific at Armona, and has three children; and another daughter, Katie, is the wife of John Simpson, an engineer of the same railway company. In Colorado, Mr. Walley joined the Knights of Pythias, affiliating with Cavanaugh Lodge, at Maysville.

In the semi-leisure hours of these later years, Mr. Walley entertains his friends with many interesting stories of adventure and of his remarkable experiences while searching for fortune. Not only did he suffer many hardships during his mining days in Wyoming and Colorado, but in 1898 he took a trip to Alaska, borne along by the rush of gold-seekers to Nome; and while traveling many hundreds of miles in the eighteen months that he was in the frozen North, he endured much that others would not live to tell. So, too, he has passed successfully through hair-raising brushes with the Indians, and with some of the worst that the pioneers and the American government have ever had to contend with, and today he has yarn after yarn about the red man well worth the telling anywhere or at any time.

ROBERT M. WOOD.—It would have been strange indeed if California, unrivalled in its various climatic advantages, and with a soil so well adapted for almost any kind of agricultural enterprise, and particularly with conditions so very favorable for fruit-culture, should not have become one of the most famous parts of the earth, to say nothing of the United States, for the growing of raisin and table grapes, apricots, peaches, plums, berries, oranges, lemons and olives. The American in particular was quick to see what might be done here, and ever since men once began to get away from the idea that land was worth little except for a "cow country," the progress of development has been rapid.

Among those who once operated on a large scale in other fields of important endeavor and have now become noted for more intensive development of the resources of the state is Robert M. Wood, a horticulturist, and the son of James and Elizabeth (Koontz) Wood, so well known in their day as worthy pioneers. The elder Wood was a farmer who crossed the plains to reach the northwest, and located for a while at Harrisburg in Linn County, Ore. In 1869 he came to California, and the longer he stayed here, the better he liked it. The following year he moved once more, this time to Fresno County; and at last he was convinced that he had found the ideal spot he had been looking for. He bought the old Powers place, and by the time that he died, in 1873, he had greatly improved his acquisition.

Robert M. was born on October 18, 1848, in Wapello County, Iowa, and crossed the plains in 1852 with his father. When he first came to Fresno County, he went into the sheep and stock business at Centerville; and there he lived until the time when the town of Sanger was started, there he moved, but continued in the sheep business.

In 1904, notwithstanding the fact that he had operated so extensively with sheep that at one time he rented as much as 40,000 acres of land for his bands, he sold out and embarked in vineyard, orange and other fruit growing. He set out the first vineyard in the Mt. Hammell country, keeping the same until 1916, when he disposed of it.

He now has 100 acres of his 420-acre ranch, four miles south of Reedley set out to prunes. Nowhere does a more orderly, promising prune orchard greet the eye of even the widely-experienced traveler, and Mr. Wood is recognized as an authority in the field in which he is now an intensely progressive leader.

At Fresno, in 1883, Mr. Wood married Emmye Heydcliffe, a native of San Francisco, in which metropolis, with its many educational advantages, she was reared. One child, Birdie Wood, has blessed their union. Mr. Wood is a popular member of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and he is a leader in the councils of the Republican party, although broad-minded enough to treat all local political questions irrespective of party prejudices.

ALVIN A. CHANNELL.—A man of quiet, meditative temperament, whose studious and hard-working life has enabled him to become a real factor in helping to build up Central California, is Alvin A. Channell, the first man to install a pumping-plant in this section. He first came to California in 1889, but it was not until 1898, that, with a fuller knowledge of what the state as a whole had to offer, he chose Fresno County as the most promising field.

Alvin A. was born near Montreal, Canada, on August 15, 1870, the son of J. W. Channell, who was also born there. The father was a farmer; he married Ellen Sargent; and in 1889 he came west to California and located in Contra Costa County, where he began ranching with a fine orchard and an equally good vineyard. Six years later he moved to Lodi, where he engaged in horticulture, profiting by his previous experience in the growing of peaches and pears; and in that line he continued until 1915, when he sold out and moved to Santa Cruz. In 1918, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Channell took up their residence in Fresno County, where Mr. Channell died on May 31, 1919, aged eighty years. They were the parents of five children, four living: Edna, who is Mrs. George Cooper, of Santa Cruz; Alvin A., the subject of this sketch; Alice, who is Mrs. Albert Babel of Easton; and Robert M., living at Lodi.

Brought up on a farm near Montreal until he was nineteen, during which time he attended the public schools and the Knowltonville High School, Alvin A. Channell came west to Contra Costa County, Cal., in 1889, and there, as well as at Lodi, followed horticulture. In 1898 he located at Del Rey, Fresno County, where he became foreman of the Kimball Peach Orchard and was given charge of 370 acres; but in 1903 he came to Rolinda and bought his present place. It comprised 320 acres on White's Bridge Road, extending back to Belmont, nine miles west of Fresno, and, with from sixty to eighty milch cows, he engaged in the dairy business, making a specialty of the cream. He used electric power and had a Sharpless milking machine and he improved the land to alfalfa. In 1917 he sold 160 acres on Belmont Avenue, and the balance he has improved with alfalfa and a vineyard, and also maintains a small dairy, with high-grade Holsteins and Guernseys. He is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association. In 1918 he completed a modern residence of ten rooms.

Mr. Channell was married in Fresno on November 20, 1901, being united with Miss Florence Wells, a native daughter born in what was then Tulare County, but now the site of the Lucerne Vineyard near Hanford, Kings County. Her parents were A. J. and Sarah (Underwood) Wells, who were born near Wheeling, W. Va., and who migrated to California in 1880, and after residing a while at Vacaville, came to Tulare County, but soon afterwards bought a ranch of eighty acres at Del Rey, which they improved to a splendid vineyard and orchard, and where they still make their home. Mrs. Channell's grandfather, Benjamin Wells, also came to California in 1880, becoming a prominent upbuilder of the Del Rey section and interested in the Church ditch and being for many years superintendent of the canal until he retired to his ranch, where he resided until his death. Of the five children born to Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Wells, four are living, of whom Mrs. Channell is the eldest. The others are: Emery A., of Del Rey; Bessie, who is Mrs. B. M. Hopper of Fresno; and Frank R., who served in the United States Army overseas, and now resides at Del Rey. Florence Wells Channell's entire life has been spent in Fresno County and she has witnessed its wonderful development.



Abbott



Florence E. Channell

Mr. and Mrs. Channell have nine children: Alvin J., Eva Merle, Pauline Mildred, Edwin Martin, Bessie Edith, Gordon Linwood, Kenneth Wells, Barbara Elizabeth, and Francis Sargent.

Mr. Channell is a Republican in national politics, but is non-partisan in local matters. Among other civic responsibilities, he is clerk of the Houghton School District. When Mr. Channell put in the first pumping-plant hereabouts, he sunk a 12-inch well to a depth of 101 feet and set up a gas engine of twenty-five horsepower with a pumping capacity of 1,500 gallons a minute. His object was to irrigate his alfalfa, and so well did it work that eight or nine years later he installed an electric motor. In 1918 he sunk a well on his home place, sixty feet deep, bringing the water within ten feet of the surface; and then, having laid down cement pipe lines, he installed an electric pumping-plant ample for distributing water to the different fields in the quarter-section.

Mrs. Channell is a cultured and refined woman, presiding gracefully over their magnificent country home, where she and her husband welcome their many friends. Of an amiable and pleasing personality, Mrs. Channell has proven herself a splendid wife and mother, and is also deeply interested in popular education.

FREDERICK E. TWINING.—The up-to-date and progressive character of the civic life of Fresno has attracted men of all callings, scientific and otherwise, to its center, and in the Twining Laboratories, whose headquarters are in the Griffith-McKenzie building, Fresno has an institution which has become one of the leading enterprises of its kind in the state.

Its founder, Frederick E. Twining, was born in Croton, Ohio, May 28, 1874. He received a liberal education in the public schools and in the Denison University at Granville, Ohio, where he took a course in chemistry. He also took a medical course in a medical college at Columbus, Ohio, afterward returning to Granville, where he conducted one of the leading drug stores in that place. California's allurements enticed him to dispose of his interests in the east, and in 1898 Dr. Twining came to Fresno and established the Cutter Laboratories on Mariposa Street. In 1900 he was appointed State Sanitary Inspector for five counties in the San Joaquin Valley, retaining the position for twelve years. His well known ability as a chemist won for him the appointment of City Bacteriologist of the city of Fresno, and in 1913 he established the Twining Laboratories, whose business has grown and expanded until it has a state wide reputation and has become one of the leaders in this line of work in the state of California, conducting all kinds of scientific investigations, microscopic, bacteriological, chemical and physical. Its branch laboratory on Amador Street contains all the heavy machinery for physical testing; the Laboratories include X-ray plant, grinding outfit, machine shop and an electro-chemical outfit, where any kind of test is made. Professor Twining has recently been in the East engaged in special mining work for the copper and steel interests. He also does agricultural laboratory work, conducting special work for the farmers and fruit growers of the valley, and is constantly branching out in his field of labor.

He established domestic ties by his marriage with Maude M. Wolverton of the state of Ohio, the fruit of the union being a son, Fred W., now an officer in the United States Army, who received his training at Camp Kearny, Cal.

JAMES A. LANG.—To retain a responsible position with a large railway company for twenty years bespeaks sterling character and business ability of a high degree and of especial adaptability to one's work. Such is the honorable record of James A. Lang, a pioneer employee of the Southern Pacific Railway Company, for twenty years in the baggage department, and during the last fifteen years of his service was in full charge of the baggage department at the Fresno depot.

James A. Lang is a native of the Hoosier State, born January 7, 1871, at Corydon, Indiana, and when one year old his father moved to Sherman

County, Nebraska, where he took up the first government claim in the county and was one of the pioneers of that section of the state. James A. Lang was reared on a farm in Nebraska, in which state he followed farming until he migrated to the Golden State, where he arrived February 2, 1894, and at first stopped at Fresno, then a small town of about 12,000 inhabitants. For the first five months he worked on ranches, after which he secured employment in the baggage department of the Southern Pacific Railway Company at Fresno. Mr. Lang has witnessed marvelous changes in the business affairs of the railroad during his long term of service, and mentions the interesting fact that the storage charges averaged about \$3.50 per month, when he first entered the baggage room, but the business had so greatly increased by the time he severed his connection with the company, in 1912, as to amount to \$600 per month for storage charges. The same relative increase was also noticeable in the number of pieces of baggage that were handled per month, the total number at first being from 2,000 to 3,000 and at the time he left the employ of the railroad the department handled from 30,000 to 40,000 pieces.

For the past six years J. A. Lang has been conducting an auto express and delivery business in Fresno and being so widely known and a general favorite with the traveling public, his motor delivery is always in demand and the public realize that Lang's express can be relied upon for prompt and efficient service.

Fraternally Mr. Lang is a charter member of Sunset Lodge No. 7199 Modern Woodmen of America, at Fresno, has been very active in securing members for this organization and has passed through all the chairs. He was also a charter member of the order and was a delegate to the national convention of the order held at Chicago and Buffalo. He is a member of the Red Men, also of the lodge of Eagles at Fresno, and is very proud of a watch charm that was given him by the lodge of Eagles for securing a large number of new members. He was made a Mason in Porter Lodge No. 106 in Nebraska, and is now affiliated with Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M. Besides the above fraternal orders Mr. Lang is an honored member of the Teamster's Union, and at one time was a candidate for the office of sheriff of Fresno County, at the primary election, but failed to receive the nomination.

Mrs. Lang was in maidenhood Ethel Dunn, a native of California and daughter of R. P. Dunn, a pioneer citizen of Fresno, where he was for many years a contracting painter and member of the old volunteer fire department, but is now a resident of Chico, Cal. By a former marriage Mr. Lang has a son, Austin Lang, who is serving in the United States Navy.

LEONIDAS B. HAYHURST.—The junior member of the law firm of Harris and Hayhurst, and the subject of this sketch, Leonidas B. Hayhurst, is a native of Carroll County, Ark., where he was born January 31, 1878.

His father, S. Leonidas Hayhurst, was a native of Indiana and died when his son, and namesake, was a small child. His mother, who in maidenhood, was Sarah Jane Gibson, a native of Missouri, being left a widow with two children, decided to raise her children in California, and in 1886 located in Fresno County.

Leonidas B. Hayhurst received his early education in the grammar schools of Wildflower and Kingsburg, which was supplemented by attendance at the high school of Selma. Afterwards he took up the study of law at Fresno. To assist in the payment of his law course he acquired a knowledge of stenography, the financial receipts from the practice of which aided greatly, in a material way, the completion of his law studies. He quickly acquired a knowledge of the principles of jurisprudence and possessing a retentive memory passed his examinations and was admitted to the bar in September, 1900. In the year 1902 he became associated with Judge M. K. Harris, and during the year 1912 the partnership of Harris and Hayhurst

was formed. They are the legal representatives of allied interests of the Bank and Trust Company, of Fresno; the Commercial Bank of Sanger; also the First National Bank of Parlier.

Mr. Hayhurst is an attorney of high principles and of strict integrity and prepares all of his briefs with the utmost thoroughness and care, to which may be attributed his growing clientele. Aside from his professional duties Mr. Hayhurst is interested in undeveloped land in Fresno County.

Leonidas B. Hayhurst was united in marriage with Cecil C. Burroughs, a native of Fresno County. Mr. Hayhurst has never sought public office and being of a home-loving disposition finds his greatest pleasure and surcease from the cares of professional life in the enjoyment of his home circle.

JAMES E. FINCH.—A highly esteemed resident of Fresno County is James E. Finch, a native of the Buckeye State, where he was born on February 7, 1856, near Greenfield, Fayette County. His father, Joseph A. Finch, was a farmer and died in Ohio when James was twenty-five years old; his mother, who in maidenhood was Amanda Collier, passed away four years after her husband. James E. Finch was the fourth child in a family of six, and was obliged to make his own living from the age of sixteen years. He hired out to work on farms, which precluded his attendance at school; but undaunted by adverse circumstances, and being an untiring worker and ambitious to get ahead in the world, he has nevertheless succeeded and became the owner of a twenty-acre vineyard near Lone Star.

In 1882, James E. Finch left his native state to try his fortune in the West, locating near Grand Island, Nebr. Six years later he was united in marriage with Mrs. Malinda Baldwin, daughter of Harvey Murdock and widow of Lindley Baldwin, by whom she had two children, one of whom is Mrs. Charles McBride, a sketch of whose husband appears on another page of this history. Mrs. Baldwin had proved up on a Nebraska homestead, and after her marriage to James E. Finch he continued farming in Nebraska until their removal to California in 1894. After their arrival in the Golden State, Mr. Finch purchased twenty acres of land, one-half of which was in vines, and the remainder in trees. This property he eventually sold and in 1908 bought his ranch of twenty acres near Lone Star, which he owned until he sold it in March, 1919.

Mr. Finch is a conscientious and industrious rancher, and is highly esteemed in his community for his irreproachable character and high principles in all business transactions. In political matters he supports the Republican platform; and he is an honored member of the Raisin Growers' Association. Mr. and Mrs. Finch are the owners of a residence in Fresno, situated on Coast Avenue.

WILLIAM L. SCALES.—Fresno County is indeed fortunate in having as its Sanitary Inspector, William L. Scales, a man of up-to-date ideas in sanitation and one who, by efficient efforts, through the installation of the latest appliances, and by an educational campaign along sanitary lines, has accomplished excellent results throughout the county.

William L. Scales is a native of the Prairie State, born at Farmington, Illinois, February 24, 1876. When he was a small boy his parents moved to Leadville, Colo. While living in Colorado the mother passed away, leaving four children, which the father, Levi Scales, brought to Fresno in 1881. For a while the father followed ranching, but owing to ill-health gave up that line of endeavor and retired. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Scales includes: Frank Scales of Oilfields, Cal.; Charles, a rancher in Hills Valley, this county; Mrs. Flora Gibson, who resides at Fowler; and William L., the subject of this sketch.

William L. Scales, the youngest member of the family, received his education in the schools of Fresno County. His business endeavors have led him into various lines; for two years he rented a vineyard five miles east of

Selma; five years he was in the employ of the United States Government as postmaster, during the summer time at Bartlett Springs, Cal., a summer resort in Lake County. At one time he was bookkeeper and collector for the Jersey Farm Dairy, Fresno. In 1906 Mr. Scales went to Siskiyou County, Cal., where he was employed as bookkeeper for the McCloud Lumber Company, remaining there three years. In 1910 he was with the Hume-Bennett Lumber Company, where he helped in constructing their flume from Hume to Station No. 4, Fresno County. One year of his life was spent in Portland, Ore., and for three years he operated an alfalfa and stock ranch in Los Angeles County.

The year 1913 marks the beginning of Mr. Scales' work in the Fresno County Sanitary Department. The cattle in Los Gatos Canyon having become infected with rabies, W. L. Scales was assigned to that section to inspect the herds and take measures at once to eradicate the disease. So thoroughly did he understand his work that in six months he had mastered the situation and cleared up the condition. Mr. Scales has given especial attention to the improvement of sanitary conditions of the country schools. He had septic tanks, flush toilets and sanitary drinking fountains installed in the schools and has also inspected the water supply for camping parties and picnic grounds. This work has been followed up by an educational campaign through the daily newspapers, calling attention to the danger in drinking from streams. Mr. Scales has made a special study of his line of endeavor and his work has met with the most satisfactory results throughout the county. A work like his, that has the health of the community at heart, is certain to be commended by all.

GEORGE H. TAYLOR.—A man of long experience in the milling business in the San Joaquin Valley, and elsewhere, is George H. Taylor, who occupies the responsible and lucrative position of estimator at Madary's Planing Mill, Fresno. A native of Yorkshire, England, born July 28, 1860, he was reared in his native country and educated in the public schools. He served a seven-year apprenticeship in the lumber business, including all branches of the industry, from mill work and bench or cabinet work to estimating. When a young man twenty-one years of age he arrived in Montreal, Canada, in 1881, and became associated with bridge construction work for the Canadian Pacific Railroad. In those days wooden bridges were constructed. After one year there he gradually worked west in bridge construction for the company, and became superintendent of construction work. His last work for the company was in the Rocky Mountains at Yale, B. C. He next located on Vancouver Island, B. C., and became superintendent of construction for the New Vancouver Coal Mining and Land Company, Limited. This was the largest company in the Dominion, owning over 1,000,000 acres of land. Besides being superintendent of construction on their plants, he erected over 100 homes for the employees of the company. He served the company faithfully, and his fine letters of recommendation from them as well as from the Canadian Pacific Railroad testify to his proficiency as a workman and the esteem in which they hold him.

Mr. Taylor next located at Santa Clara, Cal., where for four years he was associated with planing mill work. In 1904 he came to Fresno and entered the employ of the Hollenbeck-Bush Planing Mill Company as foreman of their cabinet department. In 1911 he became estimator at the Madary's Planing Mill, which position he still retains. The company appreciate his exceptional ability, and his forty years' experience in the business makes his assistance of incalculable value to them.

Mrs. Taylor was before her marriage Elizabeth Adams, a native of Hampshire, England. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor are the parents of six children, named respectively George A.; Richard; Maude; Ruth; Margaret, the wife of George M. Bruten, who is a son of the former Lord Mayor of Gloucester, England, and who was formerly a rancher west of Fresno, but is now a



Geo H. Taylor

sergeant in the Canadian Army, serving over seas; and Edna E., a student in the Fresno High School. Mr. Taylor owns his own home, a comfortable and attractive modern bungalow at 3228 Illinois Avenue, and takes intense interest and pleasure in his spare time, in the culture of his beautiful flowers and ornamental trees. Fraternally, he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in British Columbia. He is highly esteemed by all.

BERNARD A. NEWMAN.—Reared and educated in Fresno County, and a resident here since a lad of seven years, Bernard A. Newman has made good in his home county and risen to an assured position in both the social and business life of the community. Born in Otweclaberg, Sweden, August 1, 1881, he is a son of Gustaf and Sophie (Adahl) Newman, both natives of Sweden. Gustaf Newman was born in the Province of Otweclaberg October 30, 1855, and on reaching maturity followed railroading in his native land. He emigrated to the newer world in 1883, arriving in New York on March 3, of that year. Going to Peoria, Ill., he worked in the car repair shops of the Wabash Railway Company, and later was employed in a pottery works. Deciding to continue his journey across the continent, he came to California and in 1888 located in Fresno. After his arrival, he worked for a few months in the Minnewawa Vineyard, and was next in the employment of the Fresno Gas and Electric Company, up to 1898. The following three seasons he was engaged as engineer in the sawmill at Pine Ridge, and then became janitor in the First National Bank of Fresno. In 1902 Mr. Newman entered the employ of the United States government as janitor of the Fresno postoffice and is now head janitor of that building. Fraternally, he is a member of the Fresno Lodge of Red Men, and is Guardian of the Forest in that order, also being a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood. To himself and wife two sons were born, Bernard A., of this review, and Harold, of Oakland, both successful plumbers, owning their own business. The mother passed away in 1903.

Bernard A. Newman came to Fresno with his parents in 1888, and attended the Fresno schools. After finishing his education he became an apprentice to the plumbing trade, with Donahue & Emmons Company, of Fresno, remaining with them five years; his first work of any importance being on the Patterson Block. In 1901 he went to Los Angeles and followed his trade in that city, in the employ of Howe Bros., and also with the Thomas Haverty Company. While there he worked on some of the finest buildings in the city, among them the Angelus Hotel, Hayward Hotel, the Auditorium, 5th and Olive Streets; the St. George Hotel, the Maryland and Raymond Hotels of Pasadena. In 1907 Mr. Newman went to San Francisco and entered the employ of the United Builders Construction Company, and while with them he was foreman on the plumbing and heating of the Butler Building, having forty-five men under his supervision. He also worked on the Pacific Building, Fourth and Market Streets. Returning to Fresno, he was in the employ of Barrett-Hicks Company one year, at the end of which time he formed a partnership with Nudt Johnson, under the firm name of Newman & Johnson, Plumbers; during their partnership they made a specialty of fine residence and country work. In May, 1913, the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Newman entered into business for himself, and has, among other work, installed the plumbing and heating in the following residences and business blocks: The B. F. Shepherd and W. A. Jones residences; rebuilt the plumbing and heating in the Minnewawa Vineyard residence; the John Short Building; the stores of the J. M. Ruth estate on J Street; the Pacific Coast Grocery Company building; the new San Joaquin Bakery, at San Benito and P Streets; and the school buildings in the towns of San Joaquin and Herndon. In the midst of his many business interests Mr. Newman has found time to devote to horticulture, and is the owner of a twenty-acre ranch on Pierce Avenue, improved with Thompson seedless grapes, figs and peaches. Mr. Newman stands high in the Master Plumbers' Association of the state, and

served as its president in 1918-1919 and for three years prior to this was on the executive board. He is treasurer of the San Joaquin Valley Association of Master Plumbers, and fraternally is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the D. O. K. K., the Woodmen of the World, the Red Men, and also belongs to the Rotary Club of Fresno. He was a director of the Fresno Material Dealers' Association. Preeminently a man of action and energy, he has always done all in his power to further the best interests of Fresno, city and county, and has aided materially in the upbuilding and progress of this section of the state.

The marriage of Mr. Newman united him with Kathleen Helen Lynch, a native of Arizona, and five children have been born to them: Harold E., Eleanor; Bernard A., Wesley J. A., and Lucile.

CLARENCE MURRAY.—The present incumbent of the responsible position of city engineer of Fresno, Cal., Clarence Murray, is a native son of the Golden State and was born in Visalia, Tulare County, November 13, 1880. His parents were both pioneers of this state. His father, J. H. K. Murray, was a native of Missouri and crossed the plains in the early fifties and made a settlement in Tulare County, near Visalia, where he engaged in ranching and soon became identified with the development of his adopted county, taking a prominent part in all forward movements of both state and county for the balance of his life. His wife was in maidenhood Amanda Roark and a native of Tennessee, and she, too, came to Tulare County at an early day where she met and married Mr. Murray.

The high standing attained by Clarence Murray in his chosen profession of civil engineer is the result of special training for his life work, accompanied by natural ability and energetic efforts. After his graduation from the grammar and high schools of Visalia he entered the University of California at Berkeley, where he received the excellent advantages afforded by that institution. He was graduated from the University's scientific course in 1903 with the degree of B. S. and at once began his career as a civil engineer and worked in various parts of the state for the ensuing six years. In 1909 he located in Fresno and began the practice of his profession, continuing successfully until in April, 1917, when he received the appointment, by the mayor, to the office of city engineer, which he still holds, carrying on the duties of the office with phenomenal success.

Mr. Murray was united in marriage with Ethel F. Scott, born in Visalia, and a daughter of pioneer parents who settled in Tulare County in an early day and became identified with the upbuilding of that county. Of this marriage two sons have been born, Clinton and Ralph. Fraternally, Mr. Murray is a member and past noble grand of Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F., and in every movement tending to promote the welfare of Fresno he is ever found to be a loyal supporter and his circle of friends and well wishers is ever widening.

ALBERT P. SIMPSON.—Quickness of perception, prompt action and ready wit, prime essentials for a successful auctioneer, are possessed by Albert P. Simpson, Fresno's leading auctioneer and commission merchant.

Although he was born in Ohio, August 23, 1868, he was reared from infancy in Adams County, Iowa. Educated in the public schools of Iowa he entered the mercantile business after completing his schooling, and was in general merchandise stores at Corning and Mount Etna, Iowa. He also had experience in the milling business. In 1888 he went to Los Angeles, where he was in the employ of the Earl Fruit Company five years. He then returned to Corning, Iowa, and engaged in farming, but the experience that so many testify to who have once made their home in California, was his dissatisfaction with the East after their return thither and a longing for the West, with its broader life and greater opportunities for an ambitious, energetic young man desirous of attaining the top of the ladder of success. The year

1912 found him again on his way to California. He went to Madera County and in partnership with E. P. Piper bought 1,200 acres of the Jones ranch, located in the southern part of the county, near the San Joaquin River. This they subdivided and sold off in from one to forty acre tracts. They laid out the town of Trego, built a store and home and sold all off in two years' time to people, nearly all of whom came from Iowa. This town which Simpson and Piper put on the map is now a thriving little place, with school, post office and irrigation plants. Mr. Simpson and his partner paid \$32,000 for the land and sold it for \$75,000. This was the largest deal made in Madera County in recent years. This land, formerly a grain ranch, is now planted to alfalfa and fruit. In 1914 Mr. Simpson came to Fresno and opened an auction and commission house. He has been very successful and today stands as a leader in his line of business. In addition, he auctions live stock in the valley, and in 1917 sold \$95,000 worth of live stock at auction. His largest sale, for \$10,635, was turned in five hours on the F. M. Helm ranch. He has done auction work for the Red Cross during the late war, giving his services free.

Mrs. Simpson was before her marriage Martha Morton, a native of Montgomery County, Iowa, and a daughter of one of the pioneers of that state, a miller by trade and the founder of the town of Morton Mills, which was named for him. The seven children born of their union are by name: Cloyd J., Jr.; Mrs. Ethel Johnson; Glenn; Beuhla, wife of Floyd Knox; Merle; Mildred; and Ruth, the wife of Stanley Hopkins.

Mr. Simpson is a great booster for Fresno County and thinks there is no place in the world that compares with it. He is a progressive citizen whose identification with Fresno has been of untold value to its growth and development.

JOHN BRAVES.—How effective is the amalgamation of the Armenian with the American, that is, at least in those cases where the Armenians have thrown in their lot with us and contributed their "bit" to the historic development of the country, and by so doing have participated to a great extent in our political, social and intellectual activity, may be seen in such cases of successful professional careers as that of John Braves, the energetic, talented and popular editor of the Armenian weekly, "Asbarez," who is a native of Turkey and the son of Elias Braves, a grain exporter and vineyardist. He died at Rochester, N. Y., in 1898, survived by his good wife (who was named Anna), who is now making her home at Fresno with the subject of our interesting sketch.

Born at Smyrna on January 30, 1872, Mr. Braves grew up under the wise and kindly supervision of some Americans interested in facilitating Christian education there, and attended the American College at Constantinople, from which he graduated with honors in 1892. What these educational advantages meant in that benighted land, Mr. Braves will tell you, and how well he profited by both the courses and an intimate contact with his learned and large-hearted teachers, acquaintance with the gentleman himself will soon discover. Having received his diploma, he sought to pay back to some extent the moral debt he owed for his education, and so taught for three years in the International College at Smyrna.

Then transpired something in the patriotic Armenian's life which only one inspired by love of his native country can fully fathom. Because of political disturbances and the extreme danger to life, to say nothing of property—more of the dark chapters in the misrule of the beautiful Armenian land—Mr. Braves had to flee from the country, leaving under conditions of privation and great loss. He made his way to Greece and then to France; and from the hospitable territory of the French Republic he pushed on to the United States merely because he felt that in the newest of all the free lands a greater destiny awaited him. He landed in America on July 7, 1895; and

having learned the cabinet maker's trade, he supported himself in that field until 1906, when he decided to come west to the Pacific Coast. The thought was father to the act; and it was not long before he was basking in the genial sunshine of Fresno.

Soon after his arrival here, Mr. Braves was married to Miss Susie Markarian, an unusually attractive woman representing a prominent family. Ever since, Mr. and Mrs. Braves have been identified with most movements for the bettering of local social and religious conditions. By a former marriage Mr. Braves is the father of a son, Harold.

Not only is Mr. Braves the editor of the Journal referred to, "Asbarez," meaning "arena," but he was the principal founder of the paper, which was established in 1908. Since then the weekly has passed into the hands of the Armenian Federation, whose interests it particularly fosters. As manager and editor, Mr. Braves has discharged his responsibility so well that the "Asbarez" now has a circulation of 2,200. Its influence is potent with the Armenians; and, as a journal constantly striving to create a higher degree of American patriotism, it is a valuable asset among the publications of California, and an honor to the foreign press in the United States. Mr. Braves is naturally identified with several literary organizations, and he is, besides, a popular member of the Odd Fellows and the Eagles and, with his good wife, enjoys the social life of those circles.

HARRY ELMER McLANE.—Prominent among the men who have achieved success in the California oil fields largely because they have been experienced men in the industry in the East, having worked and studied in every department, becoming conversant with its every detail, is Harry Elmer McLane, field superintendent of the Standard Oil Company in Coalinga, who doubtless owes some of his recent prosperity to his wisdom in deciding, when at the turning in the road, to cast his fortune solely with the Standard and their future development. He was born in Derry township, Westmoreland County, Pa., March 12, 1863, the son of George McLane, who was born near Glasgow, Scotland; from which it will be seen that the family originated in a country that has undoubtedly given us some of its brainiest and most enterprising citizens. The father came out to America with his parents and settled at Derry; and later, during the Civil War, he enlisted in a Pennsylvania regiment and was killed during the Battle of Gettysburg, in 1863.

Harry McLane lived with an uncle, his mother's brother, a Mr. Wm. Best, from 1873 to 1876, and having received a good education in the public schools, when fourteen years of age he started for the oil fields at Petrolia, Butler County, Pa., and there began, at the bottom rung of the ladder, to learn the business. In 1879 he was in the service of the Standard Oil Company in different fields, Clarion, Venango, McKean, Butler and Warren counties, Pa., choosing the construction department; and it so happened that his first task was to assist in installing the first supply of natural gas used for domestic purposes and sold commercially. This gas was piped to Petrolia and Parker's Landing, and excited great interest and hopes.

He was next engaged by the company at Maxburg and North Baltimore, Ohio, but after a while was transferred from the construction to the production department, and in 1888 was made production foreman in the Mount Morris Oil Fields of Pennsylvania and West Virginia. While his district was on the West Virginia side of the Mason and Dixon line, he made his residence at Mount Morris, Pa. In 1892 he was transferred to the McDonald oil field in Pennsylvania where he continued in the same capacity with diligent care and faithfulness, so that wherever he went, and whatever he undertook he was able to demonstrate capability above the average and so made both an enviable reputation and many friends.

Wishing to engage in the oil business on his own account, he resigned his position with the Standard Oil Company on January 1, 1900, and for ten



Harry E. McLane

years he was engaged as an oil operator and producer in the Pennsylvania fields, making his home and headquarters at McDonald, Pa., and during the time was very active and energetic. However, unfortunate investments and the drilling of too many dry holes, decided him to seek a new field, so choosing California, he came hither in 1910 and after a period of six months was so well impressed with conditions and possibilities that he decided to locate. Returning to Pennsylvania he shaped his affairs and brought his family to Coalinga in 1911.

Desiring to again engage his services with the Standard Oil Company, with which he had already served so many years, he applied for a position with them on Section 28, and found that the only opportunity was a place as pumper. He knew full well it did not make any difference where he started, he only wanted a chance to show his ability and work up, for he had controlled hundreds of wells and managed hundreds of men in the East for the Standard, as well as for himself, and had such confidence in the Standard's disposition to reward merit and fidelity that he decided to accept the offer and began his duties. From pumper he was advanced March, 1912, to be production foreman, and then, in January, 1914, he was made assistant superintendent of this division. Finally, on March 1, 1916, he was made field superintendent of the Coalinga division of the Standard and he has held that responsible position ever since. He is in charge of all the properties in the producing department of the Coalinga field, and as 300 hands are employed, it will be seen that much depends upon his fidelity and common sense management. At camp there are machine and blacksmith shops and an ice plant, and natural gas is used for fuel for the boilers as well as for cooking and heating in the camp.

Besides section 28, there are three other camps of the Standard in this division—Section 20, Section 22, and Section 2. The Standard, in this division, have their own school for the education of the children of their employees which is maintained by the company. The management of this school is a part of the duties of Mr. McLane as superintendent of the division. At first the county school authority did not recognize this school so the graduates had difficulty in entering the high schools of the county. Mr. McLane saw to it that their school had the same uniform textbooks and grades as the public schools of the county, so through his efforts it is now accredited and the graduates of the school on Standard 28, have no difficulty in entering the intermediate school and the Coalinga High School.

Harry McLane is endowed with much native ability and business acumen which, coupled with years of valuable experience, makes it but natural that he presides successfully over large affairs. He is a very busy man, but finds time to look after the comfort and higher interests of the employees for whose welfare he is very solicitous and leaves nothing undone to provide for their health and happiness. In this sensibly beneficent work, so important to the employer as well as to the employed, he has the hearty cooperation of the Standard Oil Company, whose fair attitude toward its workmen and representatives, the world over, is proverbial. During the war, when personal solicitation for funds for patriotic purposes had its objectional sides, as was shown in many communities, and perhaps even thwarted the good efforts of many to swell the campaigning funds, Mr. McLane originated the much preferred system of providing a general fund, to which each workingman would be invited to subscribe according to his means, and authorizing a committee, when the Red Cross and other approved agencies wished the sinews of war, to distribute according as the general fund subscribed permitted at the time. This resulted in the organization of the Coalinga War Fund Association, which accomplished the purpose desired.

While at Petrolia, Pa., Mr. McLane was married to Miss Mary Keighron, by whom he has had ten children, seven of whom grew to maturity. Leo,

Victor, and Harry, in the United States Navy, the heavy artillery and the army overseas, are all experienced oil workers, and Frank is in the aviation section of the army that went to France. Loretta and Bernadette are at home; while Marion, next to the youngest, is Mrs. Richard B. Flynn of Fort Worth, Texas, the wife of a first lieutenant in the United States Army.

Besides being chairman of the organization committee, and a director of the association having charge of the collection and distribution of war funds, Mr. McLane is both a member and a director of the Growler's Club. In Pennsylvania he was prominent in politics as a Democrat and a member of the county and state Democratic committees; and in McDonald, where he resided during his active oil operations, he was elected justice of the city several terms, although the community was a Republican stronghold. He is also a vigorous member of the Chamber of Commerce at Coalinga.

HOMER E. BUTCHER.—Born on a farm in Houston County, Minn., February 28, 1882, Homer E. Butcher attended the country schools of his native state, and when eighteen years of age went to Winona, and there attended the Toland Business College, taking a commercial and stenographic course. He then went to La Crosse, Wis., where he taught one term in the Toland Business College, and at the expiration of that time removed to Oelwein, Iowa, where, with a partner, he conducted the Oelwein Business University in that city for two years, and then sold out the business. Coming to Fresno in June, 1904, Mr. Butcher entered the employ of the Fresno Home Packing Company, in the office and sales department of that concern. He later went with the J. K. Armsby Company. In 1913 he entered the employ of the Guggenlime Company, and now holds the position of auditor of all the plants of this company in the San Joaquin Valley, Mr. Butcher being located at the Fresno plant.

In the midst of his other business interests, Mr. Butcher has found time to do some real estate developing in Fresno, having purchased five acres in North Fresno, the Wapella Tract, which he subdivided and sold off in lots. Fraternally he is a Woodman of the World, and has been through all the chairs in that order.

The marriage of Mr. Butcher united him with Miss Ethel Davison, a native of Winona, Minn., and one daughter has been born to them, Wilma, a native of Fresno, and now a student in the high school.

GERALDO J. FREITAS.—Whoever studies the early history of California pertaining to pioneer days must be impressed not only with the fact that many who engaged in the rougher, more difficult and sometimes less remunerative enterprises then necessary to paving the way and laying the foundations for a riper and richer civilization, either themselves survived to venture into other fields, or bequeathed to their immediate posterity that enviable blessing, but that among the empire-builders were no small number, during generation after generation, of those who first saw the light of day in a distant clime and often those who came from what might truly be called a corner of the earth. Numerous and successful among these have always been the natives of the far-famed, balmy Azores, who brought with them both a certain definite knowledge of how to do things and also the capacity for hard, willing, persistent work; of which estimable citizens resident in Central California must be mentioned Geraldo J. Freitas, one of the big sheep raisers of the early, romantic days, who is now a wholesale liquor dealer as famed for the high standards in his business methods as for the choice quality of his wares. He was born in the beautiful Azores Islands on November 1, 1862, and there grew up until near the end of his teens. What he attempted to learn, he learned thoroughly well; so that when he was ready to set out into the world, he was also prepared to grapple with its many problems and batter down some of the obstacles found insurmountable by others.



John Suglian

In 1880 he arrived in Fresno, and soon after embarked in the sheep business, in which he was destined to continue for twenty years, running his sheep herds through the valley, and sometimes having as high as 6,000 sheep. So early did he pitch his tent here that he has seen Fresno grow from a very small town. Now he is active among a large population, and has many warm friends all over the county.

After selling his sheep, he engaged in the transfer business in Fresno; but in the spring of 1917 he opened a wholesale liquor store at 1836 Fresno Street. Mr. Freitas is a widower and has one daughter—Mrs. Margaret Mello, of Fresno. He belongs to the I. D. E. S., the U. P. E. C. and the Eagles, and there are few more popular men in either organization.

JOHN SUGLIAN.—Again and again America has thrown out the challenge of success to the foreigner, and often the foreigner has accepted and made good. Woven into the warp and woof of our civilization, the foreign-born citizen adds strength to the whole fabric. Among those who have thus entered upon the privileges and responsibilities of loyal American citizenship is John Suglian, of Fresno, who was born in Austria, October 28, 1873, of Slavonian parents. His father, Marin Suglian, was a sailor, whose home was in Dalmatia, on the Adriatic Sea, when the son was born, but who died when John was only three months old. John was the youngest of five children, four boys and one girl. The mother remained a widow, and although poor she reared her family nobly. She died in Dalmatia in 1912.

John Suglian grew up in Dalmatia until he was eighteen years of age, attended the native schools and learned the Slavonian language. At the age of eighteen he sailed from his native land for America, landing at New York and coming direct to Fresno, Cal., where he had some relatives. For nine months he worked in a restaurant in Fresno, and then he went to San Francisco and learned the barber trade, remaining there one year. Returning then to Fresno, he soon became the proprietor of what is now the Oak Barber Shop, 1055 I Street, which he operated for twenty-four years, and in which he is still interested.

Being desirous of owning some real estate, Mr. Suglian purchased an eighty-acre ranch, which he has in alfalfa and vineyard, and this he rents out. Some five years ago he added to his holdings by the purchase of 125 acres, and upon this ranch he lives and runs a dairy, and raises hogs, chickens and horses. This ranch is situated two and a half miles south of the city limits of Fresno. He loves his stock, and fully enjoys rural life.

Mr. Suglian came to America to avoid German militarism. His mother was very sorry to see him go, but provided him with \$250 with which to make his journey comfortable. He was naturalized twenty-two years ago, became a Democrat, and entered politics in Fresno. He served on the board of trustees three and a half years, under the W. Parker Lyon administration, during which time the new city hall was built and the subway, sewers, and antiseptic tanks constructed. He has traveled extensively in the United States, but has never found any place that suits him quite as well as Fresno and Fresno County; and he is proud of the progress the city and county have made, and of the industries he has seen established and their growth. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. A genial man and justly popular, he has many friends, and is a member of the Eagles, Foresters and Knights of Columbus. He belongs to the Catholic Church.

October 28, 1897, Mr. Suglian married Miss Bertha Bernhauer, of Rock Island, Ill., who came to Fresno in 1891. To them have been born six children: Eva D., Jack M., Fred V., Francis J., George W. and Florian Virginia.

PETER A. BORG.—In the life of Peter A. Borg, the skilled machinist and successful proprietor of the well-known general repair and machine shop at 1928 Mono Street, Fresno, is illustrated the results of perseverance, energy and intelligently directed efforts in his chosen line of endeavor. He is a native of Sweden, born September 30, 1866, a son of Olof and Martha (Olson) Borg, who were both natives of that country. In 1868, when Peter was two years old, the parents emigrated to the United States. The family lived in Iowa about twenty years, where four daughters were born, of whom only one is now living, Mrs. Amanda Peterson, of Fresno County. Mrs. Olof Borg died in Kingsburg, Cal., and Mr. Borg, now aged about eighty, makes his home with his daughter.

For twenty years the father farmed in Hamilton County, Iowa, and in 1889 migrated to the Golden State, locating near Kingsburg, Fresno County, Cal., on January 21. At first he purchased twenty acres, which he planted to grapes, and later bought twenty acres more, where he made his home for ten years, after which he moved into Kingsburg where he lived two years. The mother passed away two years after reaching California.

Peter A. Borg did not remain long in Kingsburg, but soon went to Fresno, and in 1890 opened a small blacksmith shop in partnership with N. Peterson, which he operated for three years, when he sold his interest and entered the employ of Kielsen and Hall, and after four years with this firm, he purchased their blacksmith department and, with John Hjort as partner, opened a blacksmith shop on Fresno Street, between H and I Streets, where they conducted the business for three years. Afterwards he entered into partnership again with N. Peterson, for three years. After selling his interest he was employed in the Central Blacksmith Shop for about two years. For the next six years Mr. Borg was engaged as foreman of the machine shop of the Woodward Company. In 1916 Peter A. Borg opened his present well equipped shop at No. 1928 Mono Street, where he is busily engaged in conducting a general repair and machine shop. He is a thoroughly experienced machinist, an enterprising and progressive business man, who has by untiring efforts and conscientious workmanship built up a splendid business. His successful business management is evidenced by his realty holdings in the city of Fresno, where he has, besides his home at No. 317 Effie Street, twenty residence lots.

In 1892 Peter A. Borg was united in marriage with Christena Peterson, a native of Sweden, and this happy union has been blessed with two children: Edith, who is deceased; and Hilma, who is associated with the Neil-White Company of Fresno. Religiously, Mr. Borg is a conscientious member of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and he and his family are highly esteemed in their social circle and community.

ANDREW J. FROWSING.—Among the popular business men of Fresno is Andrew J. Frowsing, who, as a member of the firm known as the White Meat Packing Company, wholesale and retail dealers in meat and meat products in Fresno County, is achieving much in a business which requires tact and judgment. Mr. Frowsing was born in Fresno County on August 27, 1886, a son of Martin M. Frowsing, who was a merchant in Fresno. Andrew J. obtained a good education in the public schools of the Fresno Colony and the Artesia districts, which was supplemented by attending the schools of the city of Fresno, until 1895, when he entered the Palo Alto Meat Market, which was owned by his father and remained with him for a year perfecting himself in the trade, with which he had become so familiar from a mere lad. He then spent eighteen months attending the Fresno high school, after which he was employed in the Anderson and Moore butcher shop for a year, and two years were spent in the Veitor Market. Equipped with a thorough knowledge of the butcher business, Mr. Frowsing formed a partnership with W. A. White, under the name of White and



David Williamson, Katharine C. Williamson

Frowsing, their business grew in volume and in 1910 they incorporated under the name of the White Meat Packing Company, Mr. Frowsing being elected vice-president and appointed manager of the wholesale department. They own a fine market at 1027 I Street, and a large slaughter-house on Fig and North Avenue. In both shop and slaughter-house their equipment is of the most modern and they do a large business as wholesalers and retailers of meats. A force of about fifty employes is necessary for the conduct of their growing business.

Mr. Frowsing was married at Visalia, February 4, 1911, to Miss Hazel Pinkley, an estimable and popular young lady. She died in Fresno on November 1, 1918, and was mourned by a large circle of friends. Mr. Frowsing is a member of the Woodmen of the World and of the Eagles. He is also a very welcome member in Fresno Parlor No. 9 Native Sons of the Golden West. In politics he is a supporter of Republican principles. He is a liberal and helpful citizen of whom any community might well feel proud.

DAVID WILLIAMSON.—An honored pioneer of, and one of the most successful raisin growers in the Lone Star District of Fresno County is David Williamson, the owner of two valuable vineyards. He is what is commonly termed a self-made man, and one who has by perseverance and intelligent and industrious efforts become a prosperous vineyardist. David Williamson was born May 21, 1865, in the Shetland Islands. His parents were Henry and Janet (Isbister) Williamson, both natives of the Isle of Unst, one of the group forming the Shetland Islands. The father followed fishing, and the family consisted of three boys and one girl.

In 1872 the Williamson family emigrated to St. John, New Brunswick, and it was here that David was reared and received his education, being brought up on a woodland farm where he learned farming and lumbering. In the fall of 1887 the parents moved to California, locating for two years in the Temperance Colony, Fresno County. In 1889 the family settled in the Lone Star District, where the father purchased twenty acres, which with the aid of his son David he improved. At this time there were very few vineyards in the Lone Star District, wheat being the principal crop raised. At first, David worked on grain ranches, but later on he went into the mountains, where he was engaged in lumbering. He was a very industrious and persevering young man and soon became interested in planting vineyards, and he has planted over three hundred acres for himself and others. He has planted, improved and sold several ranches in the vicinity of Lone Star and now owns an excellent raisin ranch of forty acres east of Lone Star, and other valuable vineyards, including a half interest in the "old place," the original twenty acres purchased by his father. Mr. Williamson's mother passed away on September 23, 1918, at Ashland, Ore., on her eighty-third birthday. His father is still living at Ashland and is in his eighty-second year.

In 1898, David Williamson was united in marriage with Miss Catherine E. McFarlane, a native of Kansas, daughter of John and Susie E. McFarlane, both natives of Canada and pioneers of 1880 in Fresno County, who now reside on U Street, Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. David Williamson are the parents of five children: Frank, now twenty years of age, who registered for the United States Army, but was not called for duty; Harry, who is at home helping his father; Max, now nine years old; Doris; and the youngest, David B., Jr., now two and a half years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Williamson and their excellent family are very highly respected in the Lone Star District, and are members of the First Presbyterian Church at Fowler. Mr. Williamson is very progressive in business affairs. He was one of the organizers, and helped to build, the packing house at Lone Star which is now owned and operated by the California Associated Raisin Company, of which he is a member and enthusiastic supporter.

HAROLD E. DWELLE.—None other of the leading professions, it is safe to say, was so early recognized as of necessity and almost unlimited possibility of good, or has been so often honored by the State of California as that of the law. Prominent among the members of the California bar is the Hon. Harold E. Dwelle, assistant district attorney of Fresno County, who was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., while it was still the City of Churches, on December 17, 1882. His father was James C. Dwelle, and he married Miss Mary A. White, a lady widely esteemed in her youth as both a beautiful and an accomplished woman. In 1887 the family came west to the city of Fresno, and finding Fresno an attractive place, Mr. Dwelle located there, and for a few months worked as a wood engraver. Then he bought a place laid out as an orchard and vineyard on Cherry Avenue, which he operated for the period of one year; then moved to a twenty-acre ranch on Elm Avenue, near Easton. In 1914, however, he was injured and after three years of painful suffering as an invalid, he passed to his eternal reward on January 23, 1917. A hard worker according to the most progressive methods, straightforward in all his dealings so that he scorned to take advantage of anyone, kindly and helpful in his relations to others, he was mourned by the entire community. His good wife is still living.

Educated at the public school at Easton, Harold pushed on through the Washington union high school at Easton, and still determined to reach a greater and more difficult goal, he entered the University of California and, in 1907, was graduated with honors and the coveted B. L. degree. Pushing out into the world, he became a clerk in Department No. 2, of the Superior Court, and while holding that important position he also became law librarian and so systematized it as to greatly increase its value to the bench and bar of Fresno County. In 1911 he matriculated at the University of California Law School and graduated, with the class of 1912, with the degree of LL.B. Throughout his courses in the lecture-rooms, he was favored by a close personal acquaintance with a number of his instructors, who were men of large calibre, with a profound knowledge of law, so that his superior training is at all times apparent in his own life and work. An active Democrat, but something much more—a loyal, public-spirited citizen—Attorney Dwelle was appointed, in February, 1913, deputy district attorney of Fresno County, he having already opened an office and begun to evidence the kind of stuff that is in him. He entered at once on the discharge of his complex and responsible duties, and ever since he has been making good. Neither pains nor expense is spared by him to come up to the full measure of his calling; and when there is work that should be done, the clock plays but a small rôle in his routine. On January 1, 1918, he resigned as deputy district attorney in order to give his entire time to his private practice, and since January 1, 1918, his offices have been 409 Cory Building, and his clientage is constantly on the increase.

On June 27, 1912, in the town of Fowler, Mr. Dwelle was married to Miss Edith M. Blayney; and then and there he took to himself a mate who has indeed proven the greatest of possible helps. Five children have blessed this marriage—Harold E., Jr., Dorsey K. and Vernon R., Mary A. and Allan K., all of whom contribute life and warmth to the hospitable Dwelle home. The family worship as Protestants, and Mr. Dwelle is a Woodman of the World. He is also a charter member of the University Club.

RUSSELL UHLER.—Of particular historic interest as a public official, because of the fact that he is the first to occupy his position as county purchasing agent since his department was created, is Russell Uhler, a native of the Golden State and the son of J. Clement and Emma (Conkling) Uhler. His father was a banker and stockbroker, who settled in San Francisco in

1865. Both parents left behind them enviable reputations as citizens, neighbors and friends.

Born in San Francisco on June 1, 1875, Russell was educated at the William Penn Charter School in Philadelphia, and at the University of Pennsylvania, and while yet a young man engaged in stock-raising in Wyoming, continuing in that strenuous field of activity for eight years. There, too, he got his first touch with public life, serving in the Seventh and Eighth Wyoming legislatures which opened their sessions in 1902 and 1904. Alert and watchful for the best interests of both his district and the state, Mr. Uhler soon made a wide and desirable reputation for unselfish service to his constituency. Disposing of his cattle interests in 1907, he took up his residence at Fresno, and for one and a half years engaged in the wholesale grain and seed business.

On January 8, 1903, Mr. Uhler married Miss Emily Robinson; and the result of this marriage has been the birth of two attractive children—Harry and Maurice. Active as a Woodman of the World, Mr. Uhler is equally popular in Commercial Club circles. A Democrat, and chairman of the Democratic Central Committee since 1912, Mr. Uhler served for a couple of years as clerk of the court, and he is now completing, to everybody's satisfaction, his sixth year as county purchasing agent.

GEORGE EDWARD HOSPOOL.—A thoroughly trained and experienced farmer and stockman who has thereby become one of the most representative of Oregonians in the Golden State and a scientifically equipped ranchman whom the supervisors did well to make the superintendent of the county farms, is George Edward Hospool, who came to Fresno at the beginning of the last decade, and who has worked hard to advance the interests of Fresno County ever since. He was born near La Grande, Union County, Ore., December 11, 1872, the son of George Hospool, a native of London, England, who had been apprenticed to a butcher and, after completing his trade, came to America and to the state of Iowa. In the fifties he crossed the plains with the usual ox-teams over the Oregon trail and settled in Grand Ronde Valley, where he and a couple of others were the first three settlers. The valley was named by a comrade, La Grande, and so the first town was named after him. George Hospool there took up a ranch, and when the population of the district increased, he built the first store there, and provided the first stock of goods for the convenience of the neighborhood. He engaged in butchering and made trips east across the plains; and on his first return trip to the Pacific Coast brought out his wife and her parents. Having sold his ranch, he continued in the butcher business; and when he retired in 1892, he had three shops. He died, widely known and genuinely respected, in 1898.

Mrs. Hospool was Eliza Lewis before her marriage in Iowa, and she early shared the pioneer life of her husband by crossing the plains with him at a time when such a journey was as full of inconvenience as it was fraught with bodily danger. She died when the subject of this sketch was only fifteen months old, passing away in 1874, the mother of two children. One of these, Ida, now Mrs. Richardson, resides in Pendleton, Ore.; and the other is George Edward, who was the younger.

Brought up at La Grande, he attended the public school there, and next went to the excellent high school at Colfax, Whitman County, Wash. He assisted his father in the butcher trade until he was nineteen or over, and then he began for himself. Having been associated with his father, he had received one of the most thorough trainings; and coupling his own natural enterprise to what he had thus acquired, he was soon ready to make himself properly heard from. He went to Willow County, Ore., and entered the employ of a ranchman, for whom he rode the range. Next he moved to Harney County, and there, continuing to roam the range, worked for Pete French

for a couple of years. After that he pushed on to Boise City, Idaho, where he opened a meat market, which he ran for a year, and then sold out. In 1900 Mr. Hospool showed his practical discernment and acute appreciation of values in respect to the future when he came to Fresno and located. He entered the employ of Kennedy and Owen, and for six years was foreman of their cattle ranch. He also established the Union Market at the corner of O and Stanislaus Streets; and when he sold the same, he bought a ranch of forty acres on Jensen Avenue. Mr. Hospool entered the dairy business, but after a year sold out. He then gave his services to the Consumers Ice Company, and for three years continued with their wholesale department.

About October, 1916, Mr. Hospool became superintendent, through appointment from the board of supervisors, of the County Farms, and soon had full charge of the two hundred acres on Ventura Avenue. As may be imagined, it was a responsible position, with a herd of thirty-four fine dairy Holstein cows; but he was just the man for the place, and soon demonstrated his peculiar fitness. A Democrat in politics, his personality together with his natural and developed ability have always attracted his fellow-citizens and those having business dealings with him, regardless of political lines or creed.

At Elko, in Nevada, Mr. Hospool was married to Miss Gertrude Davidson, a native of Oakland, Cal., by whom he has had one child, Edna; and Mrs. Hospool has more and more shared her husband's popularity, while contributing immeasurably, as every such good housewife does, to his success.

WILLIAM F. JONES.—A native son, William F. Jones, the popular sheriff of Fresno County, was born in Tehama County, July 31, 1874, a son of William Z. and Helen (Supan) Jones, natives of New York and Missouri respectively. The parents were pioneers of California, the father having been engaged in the stock business in Tehama County for many years. He died in 1879, respected and admired as an exemplary citizen of the state.

On reaching his thirteenth year, and after he had received a common country school education, William F. began to work in the woods of his native county making shakes. His boyhood had not been devoid of those experiences that demonstrate the pitfalls for lads of his years, and he thus early learned the necessity of "holding his own" on all occasions. He worked faithfully at the tasks given him to do, winning the respect of his employers, and was advanced from one position to another through merit. He worked for the Sierra Lumber Company in Tehama County for seven years, and for a time was employed in Terry's Mill in Shasta County. He became a leader of men and had the faculty of getting the average of accomplishment out of their labors with but a small amount of friction. Thus the years he spent as manager of the logging camps in Shasta, Siskiyou and Tehama Counties enabled him to gain a firm grasp on the business he was following and make a place for himself in the world.

In 1907 Mr. Jones came down to Fresno County. The first two years of his stay here he helped build the mills at Hume; in fact, he put the first axe in the timber when the mill was started, and from that time until he relinquished his position he had charge of all the work except that of the sawyers. He built over a hundred miles of railroad, miles of wagon roads in the mountains, stores, schoolhouse, hospital, and such other buildings as were required in a lumber and mill town and camp. His greatest success in his labors was in working for the interests of his employers and the men in conjunction, thus bringing harmony between labor and capital. Many times he had over 500 men under his supervision, and the confidence they had in him was such that he acted as arbitrator, settling their many personal difficulties, and thereby was able to get a larger amount of work out of them than is usual, and at the same time the work was done cheerfully by them.

After living at the camp two years, Mr. Jones went to Sanger and there bought a home and soon was interested in various movements for the develop-



Albert G. Johnson



Mary S. Johnson,

ment of the little town. He was a partner in the Sanger Plumbing House, and in 1912 was one of the organizers of the Kings River and Hume Auto Service Company. However, he did not let these interests interfere with his superintendency of the work at Hume for the lumber company.

An epoch in his life opened to him in 1918, when he was prevailed upon to become a candidate for sheriff of Fresno County. From a small lad he had entertained aspirations of such an honor, and he decided he would enter the campaign. This was the first time he had ever entered into politics in any way. For seven months he conducted a personal canvas throughout the county, and by his straightforward manner easily convinced the people he met that he would administer justice as it was called for in such a position. He organized a "Jones-for-Sheriff Club" and at the primaries had received the votes necessary to place his name on the ticket at the election to be held in November. It must not be inferred that Mr. Jones did not meet with opposition, for he was unknown to the great majority of the voters of the county and his contest was bitterly opposed by other candidates. He was elected by a safe majority and assumed the duties of the office on January 6, 1919. It is safe to say that no other officer has ever gone into that office with less friction on all sides than has Mr. Jones. He is discharging the duties of the office without fear or favor, upholding the majesty of the law as his conscience dictates, and has won commendation from all parties. The success that he has attained only goes to show what a man can do when he once sets a goal for his ambition.

The marriage of William F. Jones united him with Estella Moss, a native daughter of Tehama County, whose parents are numbered among the pioneers there. One daughter has been born to them, Ina L. Jones. Mr. Jones is a member of Sanger Lodge, No. 316, F. & A. M. and of Las Palmas Lodge, No. 343, F. & A. M., and Fresno Parlor, No. 9, N. S. G. W., both of this city. Since assuming the duties of his office, he has removed the family home to Fresno. A hale fellow well met and always fearless in the discharge of his duties, he is heartily in accord with every movement for advancing the public welfare of the county of his adoption.

A. G. JOHNSON.—A successful rancher who has risen, step by step, to become a leader in his field of endeavor, and who, with broad-minded vision, has become an enthusiastic and guiding booster, is A. G. Johnson, who for the past eleven years has resided in the Mendocino district on his ranch of forty acres. This is on the old Kingsburg-Centerville road, six miles due north of Kingsburg, and six miles south and half a mile east of Sanger, and one and a quarter miles northwest of Parlier. He was born at Palmyra, Marion County, Mo., about twelve miles west of the Mississippi River, the son of Albert Gallatin Johnson, who was a native of Pennsylvania and a descendant of Dutch pioneers who migrated from Holland in the early part of the eighteenth century. Born in 1804, the father came to Missouri when a young man, and died at the age of sixty-seven years, nine miles northwest of Palmyra, on the old Johnson home farm of 640 acres. A successful farmer, he was also a splendid provider, and always had plenty in the larder for his large family. He was married three times. By his first wife he had one child, a girl. His second wife was the mother of our subject, and her maiden name was Elizabeth Turner. She was of Scottish descent, and transmitted the influence of an exceptionally strong character to her children. These numbered eleven, eight of whom grew to maturity. When she died our subject was only seventeen years old, and his father married two years later for the third time, and soon after that marriage he died.

Born on November 4, 1851, the ninth child in the family, A. G. Johnson lived in Missouri through the very troublous days of the Civil War, in a period when no person's life was really safe. As a boy he saw more than one man run for his life, and on more than one occasion saw a man carrying a

fire-arm or other weapon run after another for the purpose of taking life; slavery was the constantly debated theme, and while his father objected to slavery, he remained loyal to the South. When he was ten years old the lad started to work on the farm, and even at that age he proved his father's only support. He and an adopted boy, a year younger, raised thirty-five acres of corn that yielded eighty bushels to the acre. His education, therefore, was very limited. After his father's death he continued to work on the estate until all was settled and the property was distributed, then the sales were made to Fielding M. Johnson, who now lives retired at the corner of Fulton and Angus Streets in Fresno.

At nineteen years of age Mr. Johnson came west to California, traveling by way of the Central Pacific Railroad and arriving in San Francisco on October 8, 1870. He went to Santa Rosa, where he stopped for fifteen days, and thence to Colusa, where he worked for J. T. Marr, the grain and stock farmer, for a couple of years. He next went back to Missouri, visited there a short while, then went to Texas in the days of the "Texas steer," and so became a cow-boy and cattleman. He grew to be an adept with the lariat, and at one time was in the saddle for forty-six days, getting out of it only long enough to catch a little nap and take a bite to eat. That was on the rodeo or round-up. He followed the cattle business for five years in Texas, and made money, but lost it all in a year of excessive drought.

Once again he went back to Missouri, this time with a definite purpose. On February 6, 1879, Mr. Johnson and Miss Mary Garrard were married, nor could a union have been more fortunate. Mrs. Johnson was born in Marion County, Mo., the oldest of the five children of Edward Hector Garrard, a native of Bourbon County, Ky., and Susan (James) Garrard, born in Accomac County, Va. Mrs. Johnson is a grand-daughter of Massena and Elizabeth (Fry) Garrard, the former born in Bourbon County, Ky., and the latter in New York state. The grandfather married in Kentucky and moved to Marion County, Mo., where Mrs. Johnson's father was reared. Mrs. Johnson's great-grandfather was Gen. James Garrard, born in Kentucky, and who served as a general in the War of 1812, and he was a son of Gov. James Garrard, governor of Kentucky, and who was born in Virginia, of French Huguenot stock, who fled from France to England in 1640, and one of whom, William Garrard, settled in Wharton Parish, Stafford County, Va., about the year 1700, the said William being the progenitor of the Garrard family in America, a family distinguished for its strong, able men; wealthy stockmen and horsemen, and for its handsome women. Mrs. Johnson can therefore trace her lineage to the earliest and most brilliant periods of old Virginia. She was reared and educated at Van Rensselaer Seminary, Missouri, and later she attended College Mound Presbyterian College, pursuing a modern classical course.

Mr. Johnson remained in Texas three years after his marriage, when he closed out the cattle business, and with his wife and child returned to Nevada City, Vernon County, Mo., his wife's home, with only \$750 in his pockets. That small sum of money meant much to him then, and he invested it rather gingerly in sheep and shorthorn cattle in the Ozark Mountains; but he soon sold out and came to Houston, Texas County, Mo. There he farmed for three years, and became the owner of a ranch of eighty acres; but after a couple of years he sold his farm and for a second time came to California. This was the first trip, however, for Mrs. Johnson, and proved to her a novel experience. The couple at first went to Fort Bragg, in Mendocino County, and there Mr. Johnson worked in the saw mills for three years, after which he went to Bear Harbor, the same county, where he worked for Colonel Stewart for a year making railway ties. Thence he proceeded down the coast to Usal, Mendocino County, and there they stopped for another three years while Mr. Johnson again worked in the saw mill. He next moved on to Cleone, three miles north of Fort Bragg, where he farmed and for a couple of years worked in a saw mill.

In 1900, Mr. Johnson and his family pitched their tent in Fresno, and the following year he rented land about a mile and a half north of this place. Then he went to East Oakland, and rented 160 acres and was there for three years, and after that he migrated from place to place until he settled more permanently in this section. On taking up his present estate, he was confronted with the problem of a tract of wheat stubble. At first he bought eighty acres, raised grain for two seasons, and then decided on fruit culture; so he sold about forty acres, twenty at each end, and has planted the center that he retained. He has set out trees and vines, and made many improvements, including the erection of a neat bungalow, and now he has twenty-eight acres of muscat vines, seven acres of peaches, four acres of alfalfa, and an acre in buildings and yards. He obtains water from the Consolidated Ditch Company, and has two acres devoted to stock and domestic use. Search where you may, it would be difficult to find a more attractive home ranch of the size.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have had seven children: Lillie May is the wife of James Wilson, a farmer of Mendocino County; Russell, the second child, died when he was a year old; Alberta, a Red Cross nurse, is in France; Albert is in Tampico, on the Gulf of Mexico, engaged in the oil business; Annie is the wife of Charles Bride, a successful oil-well driller at Coalinga, and resides on the Dutch Shell Lease; Lulu is the wife of L. E. Smith, the electrician, and lives near San Francisco; and Arthur went to the Philippines, enlisted in the United States Army and is now a corporal, in service at Vladivostok, Russia.

A stockholder and active member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and of the Peach Growers Association, Mr. Johnson is also very keenly interested in civic affairs and the great political questions of the day. In national politics he follows the standards of the Democratic party, but in matters of local import he proves his good citizenship by voting for the best men and the wisest measures.

CHARLES E. PHILLIPS, D.D.S.—Prominent among the professional men of Fresno, in which city he has been engaged in the practice of dentistry for the past seventeen years, Charles E. Phillips has achieved success in his chosen profession and ranks among the leading dentists of Central California. Born in Garrett County, Ky., July 26, 1878, he received his education in the graded schools of Lancaster, that state. On finishing his general schooling, he entered the Louisville Dental College, at Louisville, Ky., and after finishing his course at that institution, entered the Cincinnati Dental College, at Cincinnati, Ohio. On completing his studies, Dr. Phillips worked as an assistant in dental offices in Lancaster, Ky., and Cincinnati, Ohio. With the West beckoning him to a land of greater opportunity, he came to California, arriving in Fresno April 29, 1902. Here he worked as assistant in the office of Dr. B. B. Cory for four years. He then took the state board examination, in the spring of 1907, was admitted to practice, and has since that date practiced for himself, with a large clientele in Fresno and the surrounding country, his offices being at 508 Rowell Building. He is an associate member of the Southern California Dental Association, and is a charter member of the X-ray Dental Association of Fresno. This association was formed in 1917, and has seventeen members, the organization owning a complete X-ray dental outfit, which appliance is now universally used in modern dentistry and is of inestimable benefit to suffering humanity.

Dr. Phillips has taken an active part in athletics during his residence in the city. For seven years he was one of the leaders in athletics in the Fresno Y. M. C. A., and was senior leader in classes. He has a gold medal received for leading in five events in the athletic sports of the Y. M. C. A., no small honor for any man. Besides his professional duties, Dr. Phillips has been interested in horticulture here, owning a peach orchard in Fresno County, which property he later disposed of. He is a member of the Merchants' Asso-

ciation, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Commercial Club, among business orders; and fraternally he belongs to the B. P. O. Elks, the Woodmen of the World, and the Red Men. A well-met and universally liked man, he is a popular figure in the life of the community, always ready to do his share in furthering the march of progress which is making Fresno one of the most prosperous cities in the state.

Dr. Phillips' marriage united him with Verna E. Stickles, a native of Oklahoma, and one child has been born to them, a daughter, Dorothy Allene.

ALEXANDER MANEELY.—A railroad man widely experienced in the construction of railroad facilities, and who has cleverly solved the problem, during an unusually busy life, of little by little improving a farm and gradually acquiring for himself and family one of the most desirable of home places, is Alexander Maneely, a native of Canada, the neighboring land that has supplied so much brain and brawn for the development of the American Republic. He was born at Blenheim, Ontario, on April 25, 1859, and there reared on a farm, while he attended the Canadian public schools.

Alexander's father was John Maneely, a native of County Cavan, Ireland, who grew up there under favoring conditions and first came to Ontario when he was thirty years of age. He was thus able to make a good start in the New World, and one of the first steps of importance in the right direction was his marriage, in Ontario, to Catherine Johnston, like himself of Irish birth. She came from Enniskillen, one of the most romantic of all parts of Erin's Isle; and her sunny temperament had its beneficent influence on husband and family. John Maneely was a weaver, and in Ontario he followed the manufacture of cloth. There, too, he died, survived by Mrs. Maneely, the mother of six children, who now lives in Manitoba.

After he had finished school, Alexander left farm work for that of a saw-mill, and when almost sixteen years old, a young age for such responsibility, he began to work for the Great Western Railway on one of their sections in Ontario. After five years' service, when his ability and fidelity were duly recognized, he accepted a still better post with the Canadian Pacific, with the crew in charge of construction work in Manitoba, as far as Swift Current; after which he worked back to Winnipeg on the southwestern branch. He then returned east and next spring went out again on the Manitoba and Northwestern as foreman of construction, and then he was made roadmaster on the same line from Portage la Prairie to Yorkton, the end of the line. A year later they discontinued the extra roadmaster and Mr. Maneely returned to the yard as foreman at Portage la Prairie, where he remained until 1900.

At the beginning of this momentous century, Mr. Maneely came to California and located in Los Angeles County, where he secured an excellent position with the Southern Pacific Railroad Company. For three years he was their foreman at Ravena; but, attracted by Fresno County and its wonderful advantages, he came to Fresno in 1903, and engaged with the old Fresno City Railway, contracting to construct the streetcar line under Griffith & McKenzie. He had charge of the construction until the railway was completed, when he was made general foreman, and put in charge of the construction work needed from time to time; and in that office he continued until about 1910, when F. W. Webster took the road over for the Southern Pacific, and then he sub-contracted under him and had charge of double-tracking the city lines. He continued general foreman until seven years ago, when he went to Stockton to take charge of the construction of extensions of the Stockton Electric Railway; then he was a season in Bakersfield, double-tracking the car-lines there; after which he returned to Stockton, on the construction of the street-car lines to Exeter, for the Visalia Electric Railway, and having successfully completed that work, Mr. Maneely returned to his ranch, in 1917.



Alexander Hareely

He had bought this place of 100 acres on the San Joaquin River, about fourteen miles north of Fresno, in Barstow Colony, in 1905, and with the aid of his son, he rapidly improved it. He built a fine residence and the necessary farm buildings, and located his family there, leaving them in charge while he was away on railway construction. He planted forty acres to alfalfa, and set out thirty-five acres in Thompson seedless and four acres in apricots, while he also provided for twelve acres of peaches. His son, Lawrence Maneely, has long had the care of the ranch, and to him is due much of the credit for the trim appearance of one of the finest farm-properties of its size in Central California. Both father and son are represented in the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

At Portage la Prairie, Mr. Maneely was married in 1888 to Miss Elizabeth Johnson, a native of Ontario, and they have five children: Ethel is Mrs. G. P. Dunham of Fresno; Ida has become Mrs. St. Clair of the same city; Lawrence is in charge of the Maneely ranch; Irene is a graduate of Heald's Business College at Fresno; and Hazel is attending the Kerman union high school. The family attends the Baptist Church in Fresno.

Mr. Maneely is a Republican in the great national issues, but works for local civic improvement regardless of party lines. In fraternal matters, too, his sympathies are broad; he was made a Mason at Paisely, Ontario, although he is not active now; and while in Ontario he used to be an Odd Fellow. He was also, while there, a member of the Knights of Pythias. Today his family and his home-place and his part in civic life so engross him that he has turned aside from what was once a pleasant social affiliation.

J. C. CHRISTENSEN.—Success has characterized the various business enterprises undertaken by J. C. Christensen, the subject of this review, ever since his coming to California in the spring of 1890.

J. C. Christensen is a native of Esbjerg, Denmark, where he was born November 19, 1864. His father, Christ Petersen, was a Danish farmer, his mother, in maidenhood, was Marie Westersen, and they were the parents of twelve children, eleven of whom are living, J. C. being the third oldest. He received his early education in the public school of his native country and after completing his studies at the Copenhagen high school attended the agricultural college at Herning, for one year. Following his school days he became the manager of a dairy farm at Als, Schlesvig, where he remained for two years.

In the spring of 1890, he emigrated to San Francisco, Cal. where he learned the trade of a cook. After following this line of work until 1895, J. C. Christensen decided to start in business for himself, and opened a restaurant on East Street, where he continued for fifteen months when he sold his business and again followed his trade of a cook. Later he opened another restaurant, this one was known as the Fourth Street Cafe, located on Fourth Street near Market Street, where he successfully operated the business for three years when he disposed of it at a good profit. Afterwards he purchased a restaurant on Sixth Street, known as the Walkaway Restaurant, and this place he continued to operate for three years until he sold out January 1, 1903, when he spent some time traveling about the state until he reached Fresno, March of the same year. Possessed of sagacious and far-sighted business judgment, Mr. Christensen soon realized that the city of Fresno needed a first class restaurant, which he at once established, on J Street, under the name of the Fresno Cafe, and where he continued to successfully operate the business for ten years when he sold out. During the ten years that he conducted the restaurant Mr. Christensen built up a very large and lucrative business making the handsome sum of \$30,000.

In 1911 Mr. Christensen bought a vineyard of forty-seven and a half acres located at Oleander, Fresno County, naming it, after his little daughter, Dora's Vineyard. This property was devoted to muscat vines and the rais-

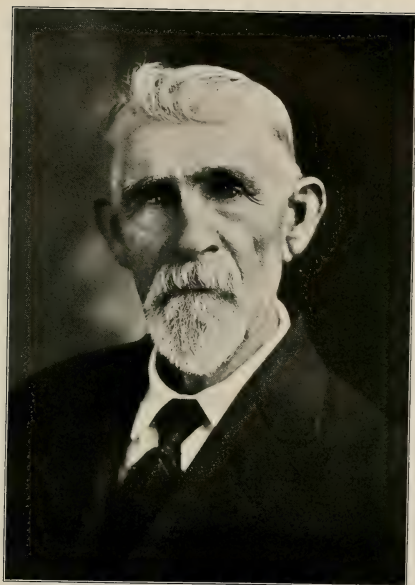
ing of alfalfa, and he continued to operate it until the spring of 1917, when he sold it and purchased ten acres of land on White's Bridge Road, which he improved and set out to Thompson seedless grapes. In 1908 Mr. Christensen purchased an apartment house at 1703 J Street, Fresno, which he remodeled and leased out all the apartments, except the one where he makes his home with his family.

J. C. Christensen was united in marriage with Miss Thora Hansen, a native of Denmark, the ceremony being solemnized in San Francisco. This happy union was blessed with one child, a daughter, Dora Marie. Fraternally, Mr. Christensen is a Mason, member of Crocker Lodge, No. 139, F. & A. M., San Francisco, Cal. and is also a member of both the Danish Brotherhood and of Dania, at Fresno, having served as president of the Dania at San Francisco for three terms. In national politics he is a Republican and is a member and stockholder of the California Associated Raisin Company. Mr. Christensen is very public spirited and liberal-hearted, a genial and companionable citizen who has the happy faculty of making and retaining friends.

WILLIAM LYNCH.—A fine old man, unusually interesting as a pioneer who crossed the great plains in the early fifties and, despite many hardships, has been an upbuilder in every community in which he has cast his lot, is William Lynch who was born near Huntsville, Madison County, Ark., on December 27, 1842, the son of Daniel Lynch, a native of Virginia. His mother, who was Nancy Sharp before her marriage, came from Alabama. The parents were farmers and assuredly belonged to that most valuable class of forerunners who laid the foundations of our great country. Daniel Lynch died in 1850, and Mrs. Lynch passed away the following year, the mother of ten children. One of these children, Edwin, served with honor in the Mexican War; while a sister Mary married George W. Gibson, and with him William came across the plains when he was only ten years of age, and drove some cattle. William had a horse and helped drive the cattle, of which there were over two hundred head, with some horses. The party traveled with ox teams and wagons, and was six months making the trip. This was in 1853, and it was necessary to proceed up the Arkansas River for 400 miles to the Rocky Mountains, then by way of the Sublette cut-off, past Fort Benton, then south of Fort Laramie, next across the Platte River, cutting their way through the pinery; and then across the Green River, and after that to Fort Bridger. The company, large, strong and well-armed, then proceeded north of Salt Lake on Bear River, past Soda Springs and then on to the Humboldt River, then across the desert to Carson River, and there they left the cattle with two of Gibson's sons. William accompanied the wagons, riding his horse through to California. He entered the state by way of Fiddletown, and passed on to Stockton.

The Gibsons settled on the San Joaquin River, and then went to Hills Ferry. Gibson sold cattle and bought sheep. William Lynch went to school there until, in 1856, they went to Sonoma County, when he attended school in Santa Rosa. He resided with his sister until he was sixteen, and then he struck out for himself. Returning to the San Joaquin, he entered the employ of Major McMichael, a cattleman and butcher, with whom he remained a year. Then he removed to San Juan, then Monterey County, and went to school there, and then to Santa Clara, where he also attended school, in 1859. The next year, employed as a cattleman, William came to Visalia, in company with George Caldwell, in charge of a herd of cattle, and after that he worked in the mines in Calaveras County.

In 1861, Mr. Lynch began to drive a team for Mr. Folgem, freighting for the New Idra quicksilver mines, and there he continued for two years. Then he entered the employ of Colonel Hollister, on the old ranch where the town of Hollister now stands; and after another year he went to Nevada, to work in the mines. Five months there fully satisfied him, and in 1863 Mr.



Wm Lynch

Lynch returned to California. He went to Ukiah, in Mendocino County, where Mrs. Gibson lived, and worked at ranching and farming until 1867, when he moved south to Los Angeles. After a year he returned to Gilroy, farmed there awhile and took up a homestead on the San Benito River, which he ran for two years; then, selling out, he engaged in the sheep business in San Benito County. He started with 900 sheep, and later had 4,000. He finally drove his flock into Fresno and sold them to Jeff James.

In 1887, Mr. Lynch bought a vineyard in Fresno Colony, but the price of his commodity went down to one and a fourth cents per pound and he failed and lost all that he had made. He then began to work by the month and soon got ahead sufficiently to be able to buy a few cows. He rented a dairy farm and continued in that line for several years. His family remained in the Central Colony when he went to Alaska in 1899, accompanied by his son, Thomas K. Lynch. He passed over the Chilcoot trail, and reached Atlan, B. C. With his son and Herbert Reese and Thomas Patterson, he took a lease on a mine, but after a year he returned to California, and once more embarked in the dairy business.

Two years later Mr. Lynch bought a ranch of twenty acres in the Central Colony, on Fig Avenue, and in this enterprise he was very successful. When he sold out, he bought from Mrs. Jagers twenty acres in the Fresno Colony, on Walnut Avenue, put it in alfalfa and continued the dairy business. He was in time regarded as a progressive leader in dairying, and rather naturally became an important stockholder in the Danish Creamery. In 1918 he sold his well-improved place, and bought a ranch of five acres near Kearney Avenue, where he now resides.

While in Mendocino County, Mr. Lynch was married to Mary S. Garner, a native of Arkansas, who came to California on a stage with her uncle, J. F. Todd, and settled in Mendocino County. They have had five children, all of whom have reflected creditably on the parents: Edwin F., the eldest, is deceased; William H. lives at home with his father; Marietta has become Mrs. Noyes of Fresno; Thomas K. is in Los Angeles; and Frederick M. resides on Kearney Avenue. Mr. Lynch belongs to the Baptist Church, and he was made a Mason in the San Benito Lodge, but is now a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M.

FRANK G. HOLMGREN.—In the life of this successful citizen of Fresno, are illustrated the results of perseverance and energy, coupled with judicious management and strict integrity in all his various business enterprises.

Frank G. Holmgren was born March 8, 1860, at Ystad, in the southern part of Sweden. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to a carpenter for three years where, as is customary in European countries, he received no salary while learning the trade, but was provided with his board. Frank G. Holmgren was ambitious to better his condition financially, and like so many of his fellow countrymen, he emigrated to the United States, in 1880, and settled at first in Brockton, Mass., where he worked at his trade of a carpenter, and while living there was also employed on the construction of the well known shoe factory of W. L. Douglass, in which he also worked for a time making shoe lasts.

After a residence of seven years in Brockton, Mr. Holmgren had a desire to see more of the great United States, particularly the Golden State, so in 1887 he migrated to San Diego, Cal., where for a while he worked at his trade, and on January 2, 1889, located at Fresno. Mr. Holmgren, being a first class workman and ambitious to succeed in his chosen line, soon found plenty of work and today can point with pardonable pride to some of Fresno's best buildings as an example of his high-class workmanship. His first employment was upon the construction of the well known Temple Bar Block, he also helped in building the Farmers' National Bank Block, the People's Loan

and Savings Bank Building, and the Barton Opera House. Afterwards he started in business for himself and erected the Swedish Lutheran Church, in Fresno. Later he abandoned contracting and engaged in the furniture business on J Street, Fresno, and also conducted a cigar store.

In 1909 he purchased twenty acres of raw land on Belmont Avenue, which he improved by planting to muscat grapes and building a fine residence, where he lived for several years, and in 1913 disposed of the property at a good profit. In addition to these he has built and sold several houses in the city of Fresno, and at the present time is engaged in following his trade. Mr. Holmgren is thorough and conscientious in all his work, and is a member of the Carpenters' Union.

In 1889 F. G. Holmgren was united in marriage with Louisa Larson, a native of Sweden, and this happy union has been blessed with one daughter, Ida, who is now the wife of Erick Anderson, of Madera. They are the parents of three children. Mr. Holmgren is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church. He is highly esteemed for his integrity of character and his success in business has been due entirely to his own well directed efforts.

LESTER F. HARTIGAN.—A young man of enterprise and business ingenuity, is the efficient superintendent of machinery for the California Associated Raisin Company. Lester F. Hartigan is a son of James and Margaret (Douglas) Hartigan. He first saw the light of day May 4, 1887, at Oleander, Fresno County, Cal. His education was received in the grammar and high school at Fresno, which was supplemented by a special course in Heald's Electrical and Engineering College, at San Francisco. After leaving college, Mr. Hartigan spent three years in the Central California Machine Shop, at Fresno, where he gained valuable experience as a machinist; afterwards he was in charge of the seeding department of the J. B. Inderrieden Packing Company, of Fresno, for two years.

In 1914 L. F. Hartigan accepted a position with the California Associated Raisin Company as a machinist, and so efficiently did he discharge all of his duties, that, after only one year, in recognition of his superior ability, he was promoted to the responsible position of superintendent of all the machinery in the great plants of the California Associated Raisin Company.

His maternal grandfather, Frank A. Douglas, a pioneer of Fresno County, invented the first machine used in stemming raisins. Mr. Hartigan has inherited the inventive genius of his grandfather, and has introduced into the plant a number of important changes in the machinery, among which especial mention is made of steel paddles used in the recleansing department, and has also made a number of minor improvements in the raisin machinery.

Lester F. Hartigan was united in marriage on September 29, 1910, with Isabel Birmingham, a native of Fresno and daughter of Thomas Birmingham. Fraternally, Mr. Hartigan is a member of the Red Men and Native Sons of the Golden West; and is a man of high moral character and unquestioned integrity.

SYLVESTER A. GEBHART.—Born in Henry County, Ind., December 6, 1876, Sylvester A. Gebhart was raised on a farm and received his education in the country schools of that district. At the age of twenty years he left home and started in life for himself, first finding employment on a farm in Missouri, going thence to central Iowa, where he worked for three and one-half years on farms and stock ranches. From there he went to South Dakota, and spent one season in the harvest fields of that state.

Mr. Gebhart arrived in Fresno, Cal., November 26, 1901, and here entered the employ of the Fancher Creek Nurseries, since which date he has remained with the firm. He started to learn the nursery business from the bottom, drove team for a while, and later looked after the growing stock, learning every branch of the work. He had charge as foreman of two nursery plants near Sanger for eight years, one located on Kings Bottom, below

Sanger, and the other two miles south of Sanger, during the busy seasons having charge of 160 men and fifty-six head of horses and mules.

A man of broad sensibilities and progressive in his business methods, Mr. Gebhart has established a fine system in carrying on his work, and is always looking for further improvements to better facilitate the business. His success has been so marked that in 1912 he was made superintendent of all the plants of the company, and he brings to his larger field of work the same attention to detail and progress which made his beginning so successful. A self-made man in every sense of the word, Mr. Gebhart has risen to his present position solely through his own efforts and enterprise and well deserves the success which has come as a result. He is the oldest employee but one with the company, in point of service. With a keen appreciation of the growing prosperity of Fresno, he has backed his judgment by investing in Fresno real estate, and is a ready contributor to all movements which have for their object the further advancement of the county.

Mr. Gebhart's marriage united him with Bertha Sand, a native of Indiana, and two children have been born to them: Albert, born in 1909; and Luella, born in 1912.

SEPTER E. JOHNSTON.—Although the present population of Fresno is made up, to a considerable extent of the younger generation, there are quite a number of the old timers among its successful business men. Among these we note the name of Septer E. Johnston, born in Ray County, Missouri, October 22, 1859. His father, James L., brought his family across the plains in 1864 by ox team express, the usual method of transportation at that time, and located at Healdsburg, Sonoma County. In 1866 he returned to Missouri with his family via the Isthmus.

Septer E. lived in Missouri until 1874 when he removed to Cowley County, Kans., where he farmed until 1881, when he went to Washington County, Ark., where he farmed until 1883, and in that year made a trip to Arizona and returned to Arkansas in the fall of 1884, and continued farming in that state until 1887 when he came to Fresno, Cal. Upon his arrival at Fresno he took up mechanical engineering, working first for the Fresno Water Company. He helped to bore the first well at the Central Station and set the first pump. Afterwards he entered the employ of the Fresno Gas and Electric Company, in whose service he remained for six years. In 1894 he began work in the shops of the Southern Pacific Railroad, where he remained for four years as a repairman. He was then transferred to the railroad yards as an inspector. Since October 30, 1911, he has been in the employ of the California Packing House where he is now chief engineer of Plant No. 6, Pacific Coast Seeded Raisin Company. In 1885 S. E. Johnston married Rose Dees, a native of Arkansas, and they are the parents of six children, namely: Dr. E. Melvin, Monroe Ezra, Effie V., Viola, Forest E. and Theodore, all of whom were born and educated in Fresno.

Mr. Johnston is a member of the Methodist Church, South, and a Modern Woodman.

ANDREW MATTEI, JR.—In the earlier years of Los Angeles, the metropolis of Southern California, while the city was yet in the throes of the real estate excitement of the eighties, one of Fresno County's rising young business men, Andrew Mattei, Jr., was born in that city, September 26, 1887.

Mr. Mattei was educated at the Horace Mann School in the Malaga district of Fresno County, and supplemented his early education with a course at Santa Clara College, at Santa Clara, and St. Mary's College, at Oakland, graduating from the latter institution in 1908. Civil engineering and a commercial course were included in his curriculum, and he afterwards engaged in viticulture and the wine-making industry with his father, with whom he has been associated ever since, his special line of development work being the clari-

fying of wine and placing it on the eastern market, selling direct to dealers instead of through local agencies, as in former years.

Energetic and versatile, Mr. Mattei exhibits an unusual capacity for business achievement. He has made a success of his work in whatever line he has been engaged. He is general manager of the Union Sales Company and also general manager of the General Tire and Rubber Company of California, with headquarters in Fresno and branch offices throughout the state. He has a chain of ten oil-filling stations located in San Francisco, Fresno, Merced, Tulare, Visalia and Porterville. He is also president of the Center Mercantile Company, located at 1151 J Street, Fresno.

Mr. Mattei's marriage united him with Miss Julia Eddy, one of California's native daughters, and they are the parents of two children, Andrew, Jr. and Eleanor. In his fraternal associations he is a member of the Fresno Lodge of Elks, and of the Fresno Parlor of Native Sons of the Golden West. In 1917 he was vice-president of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Mattei makes his home on the ranch at Malaga and ably assists his father in caring for the various interests connected with their business.

HENRY RAUSCHER.—Of good old Pennsylvania stock, Henry Rauscher was born January 27, 1849, in Beaver County, in the state named for that unique figure in the annals of history, William Penn. He received a common school education and at the age of eighteen removed to Tennessee. As a young man he followed the business of photography before the day of the dry plate, when tin types were the only kind of pictures taken. In 1870 he came to Santa Rosa, Cal., and was one of the first men in Sonoma County to take photographs. After following this profession for nine years he located in Fresno in 1879 where he was also one of the first to take photos. The early inhabitants of Fresno recall his portable gallery on the corner of J and Mariposa Streets on the spot where the Grand Central Hotel now stands. Later he changed his location to J Street.

He followed this profession for a number of years, then turned his attention to mining and prospecting in the hills of Fresno and Merced Counties. Not finding a bonanza, as a few of the more fortunate have here and there, after a time he turned his attention to other lines of business and at present conducts a confectionery and cigar store at 1601 Tulare Street in Fresno. He is one of the well known pioneers of the county and was in early days a famous crack shot with a forty-four calibre rifle. In fact his skill as a marksman was so well known that he was barred from the popular turkey shoots of those days, as the bird was quite certain to fall at the crack of his rifle. He was fond of hunting, and is full of reminiscences of those early days when antelope and other wild game were abundant on the plains in the country when he first came to the state, and when there were only four brick houses in Fresno. He has never aspired to any political office of any kind and is not affiliated with any social organization.

PROF. J. W. MOORE.—Fresno offers vast opportunities for the business and professional men who have been attracted from abroad and near, due to its marvelously rapid growth within a comparatively short time. This city affords rare advantages in all educational avenues, chief among which might be mentioned the fine arts, and has been honored with the establishment of the institution known as "The Fresno Academy of Music" by Prof. J. W. Moore, 1302 N Street, corner of Merced, where he installed for musical students a pipe-organ, piano, violin, voice, theory and harmony department, since the year 1916.

Professor Moore was born in Yorkshire, England, May 1, 1870, and was reared in a refined and religious home. His father being a pipe organist and choir director, J. W. Moore was given every advantage for a thorough musical education, for which he demonstrated rare talent and aptitude, having played a pipe-organ in church at the early age of eight years. He grad-



M. A. Nordstrom



Eldur Nordstrom

uated from the Royal Academy of Music in London, and Royal College of Organists, London, after which he traveled extensively in musical centers of Europe, studied the organ under Professor Guilment of Paris, one of the world's leading organists; also Sparks of London, Dr. Crow of Ripon, and the late Prof W. T. Best of Liverpool. After completing his studies Professor Moore resided some years in Bradford, England where he was Municipal Organist, also engaged in teaching, specializing in voice culture, piano and pipe-organ.

In 1906 Professor Moore visited Southern California where the recognition of his rare ability was so marked that he was induced to yield to the public's enthusiastic appeal for his permanently locating here where his talent was so needed and keenly appreciated by minds capable of recognizing his artistic efficiency. Since then many large audiences of California have recognized, with keen appreciation, Professor Moore as a talented musician and composer of no mean ability.

Professor Moore's Organ Recitals at the Auditorium in Fresno, as well as his work at the local churches have added superlatively to the reputation this city enjoys far and near as a musical center where rare talent may be found, and here such artists will find, in the growing tide of population, a fertile field for the inculcation of their talents upon the rising generation.

REV. MAGNUS ANDERS NORDSTROM.—A man of forceful character, pronounced business ability, extreme conscientiousness and deep religious convictions, and altogether a striking personality, who loves Fresno County and particularly one corner of it, where he has developed a splendid ranch, is the Rev. Magnus Anders Nordstrom, the pioneer of Vinland, who organized the Swedish Lutheran Church there, was its first pastor, and is now again in charge of that congregation's spiritual welfare. To him also is to be credited the organization of the first school district of Vinland. He was born in Vermland, Sweden, on June 7, 1856, in a community near Carlstad, the son of Anders Anderson, a farmer, and Anna Anderson, the mother of eight children, among whom our subject was the third youngest. He remained at home and attended school until he was fourteen, and then he spent three years in Norway, one year in Eswold and two years in Christiania, in the manufacturing of shoes. When twenty, however, he decided to study for the ministry.

Whereupon, Mr. Nordstrom entered the Oerebro (Sweden) Mission School and studied for three years, preparing for the life of a clergyman, and then, for a year, he studied at Westeras; and there he took the name Nordstrom. After four years he received a call from the Augustana Synod to continue his studies at the Augustana College and Seminary, at Rock Island, Ill., and hither he came in 1884. In 1887, when he had completed his course, he was ordained in Chicago, and then he accepted a call to Kane, Pa., as well as to Wilcox, in the same state, to serve two congregations. He soon traveled as a missionary pastor over a large territory, developing the field, and organizing congregations which are now directed by eight pastors. He built three churches and parsonages, and organized congregations at Dubois, Smithford and Bradford, Pa. He labored in that field for five years, and then accepted a call to Woodhull, Ill. At the end of two years, in 1894, he moved to Minnesota as pastor of the Lutheran Church at Hoffman; and he also took up missionary work. During ten years, he organized three congregations, and built four churches and a parsonage.

In the fall of 1903, on account of ill-health, the Reverend Nordstrom sought a milder climate, and came to California; and it was not long before he took up his residence in Fresno County. He had been here the spring before, and, after looking over the ground, had decided that this was the best place in which to locate. Eight friends from Minnesota accompanied him, and they made a small settlement. Each bought according to his ability or needs, and Mr. Nordstrom bought forty acres at the corner of what is now Madera and Shaw Avenues. He donated the site, and helped build the Congregational Church, after organizing

the congregation, and was the first pastor. He continued in that pastorate for four years.

In 1908, the Reverend Nordstrom accepted a call to Riverside, Cal., as pastor and was there for two years, and then he came back to his ranch, which he improved with a vineyard and an orchard, growing Thompson seedless and malaga grapes, and peaches. He was a pastor in charge of work at Fresno, Turlock and Berea for about three years, while he made his home in Vinland; and after that he was pastor, for about one year, of the Fresno and Vinland churches. When he resigned, in the Fall of 1914, he temporarily accepted the pastorate of the Ebenezer Lutheran Church in San Francisco, and after fifteen months when they had secured a permanent pastor, he returned to his Vinland ranch. A call from Los Angeles to take charge of the Angelica congregation took him there for eight months, but in June, 1918, he withdrew from that charge to become the permanent pastor of the church he originally built. Now he resides on his own ranch, and in his own home.

While in Minnesota he served as chairman, in the Alexandria District, of the Minnesota Conference; in California he has served several years as chairman in the Central District of the California Conference.

In national politics the Reverend Nordstrom is a Republican, but he supports good local issues regardless of any partisanship. He has been instrumental in locating nearly all the home-makers of Swedish extraction, in the Vinland Colony, Fresno County.

In New York City, on Oct. 10, 1889, Mr. Nordstrom was married to Miss Hildur Runstedt, a native of Stockholm, who was educated in the Guttenburg High School. Two daughters have been born to this very worthy couple: Magnhild, who resides with her parents; and Lillie Hildur, the wife of Arthur J. Anderson of Vinland, and the mother of a son, Gerald. Mrs. Nordstrom and her daughters were active in Red Cross work, in Los Angeles and at home.

JOHN L. HUTCHINSON.—A native of La Salle County, Ill., John L. Hutchinson first saw the light of day on January 5, 1854, on a farm near Tonica. In his native state he received a good education, having attended both high school and college, the latter being located at Eureka. When he reached his majority, Mr. Hutchinson went to Chatsworth, Ill., where he taught school and engaged in farming for seven years. In 1882 he migrated westward, locating at York, Nebr. Here he bought a farm containing 169 acres, and followed grain-farming for three years, after which he sold the place and moved to Indianola, Nebr., where he purchased a section of land. After remaining there three years, he removed to Edgemont, S. D. Mr. Hutchinson, being a very enterprising business man, soon realized that Edgemont needed a water supply, and at once installed pipes and a complete system, whereby he supplied the town with this indispensable necessity.

During the great rush to the Alaska gold fields, in 1898, John L. Hutchinson joined the great host in quest of the precious yellow metal in the Klondike, where he was quite successful. In 1900 he came to San Francisco, Cal. There he pursued a course in civil and mining engineering, in the Van Dernelen School of Engineering, after which he went to Jamestown, Tuolumne County, and for ten years was an engineer on the Sugar Pine Railroad from Oakdale to Stockton, the road being operated into the mountain lumber camps. In 1911 Mr. Hutchinson located at Fresno, where for one year he was engaged in the real estate business. He then left, in 1912, for Sangamon County, Ill., to settle an estate, and remained five years, until January 1, 1917, when he returned to Fresno County. Since that time he has made many important investments in ranch property, among others forty acres southeast of Clovis and forty acres northwest of Clovis. In the spring of 1918 he purchased forty acres at Orosi, Tulare County, and later twenty acres southeast of Orosi. All of these tracts were partially improved with vineyards and orchards, but with his characteristic enterprise Mr. Hutchinson

started at once to further improve his properties and bring them all up to a high state of development, planting new vines and improving the buildings. His various ranches are devoted to peaches, figs, apricots and grapes. As an example of the high state of cultivation to which he has brought his peach orchards, mention is made of the 1918 crop from eight acres, for which he received a \$2,500 check. He is intensely interested in the permanent development of scientific horticulture and viticulture, and is an influential member of the California Peach Growers' Association and the California Associated Raisin Company.

In October, 1917, Mr. Hutchinson purchased his beautiful modern home in the City of Fresno, on the corner of Wishon Avenue and Peralta Way, and has since improved the grounds with flowers and shrubbery, making it a very attractive home place. Mrs. Hutchinson was in maidenhood Alma Trumbo, a native of Chatham, Sangamon County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson have reared a boy, Stewart Hutchinson, who is now seventeen years of age. Mr. Hutchinson is a man of unquestioned integrity and high ideals. He was a charter member of Edgemont Lodge, No. 63, K. of P. Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson are members of the Christian Church.

LUTHER ROY McGUIRE.—The memories associated with the childhood and young manhood of Luther R. McGuire have their setting in the Old Dominion. He was born in Augusta County, October 16, 1886. Brought up on his father's farm, he attended the country schools of his native state and worked on the farm until he attained his majority, after which he went to Washington, D. C., and took charge of the farm of the National Training School for Boys—an agricultural and business school for 400 boys who were in attendance. During the three and a half years that Mr. McGuire was in charge of the farm he made many improvements in the way of clearing up timber land, increasing the acreage for planting, enlarging the herd of dairy cows, etc.

After relinquishing charge of this farm he returned to his Virginia home, and for one year was engaged in the grocery business with his brother at Herndon, Va. He came to California in the fall of 1913, and desirous of learning the fruit growing and packing business entered the Malaga Packing House. Later he became fruit buyer for the packing house. Afterwards he superintended the improvement and development of land for his uncle, J. F. Niswander, planting a vineyard near Clovis, and in the fall of 1916 he entered the employ of the California Peach Growers' Association. He installed machinery in the Valley plants and later was made inspector of plants, afterwards being made manager of Plant No. 9, in Fresno.

Mr. McGuire has dealt in unimproved land quite extensively, improving and selling the land, and has also dealt in Fresno real estate. He was the owner of a fifty-five acre ranch on Belmont Avenue, part of which is planted to peaches and apricots and is now producing.

Mrs. McGuire, before her marriage, was Miss Lucia Haber, a native of Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. McGuire are the parents of one child, a son named after his father, Luther Roy, Jr.

CHARLES M. CHALUP.—As an example of a self made man who has overcome insuperable difficulties and satisfactorily solved many of life's perplexing problems, especial mention is made of Charles M. Chalup, the proprietor of one of Fresno's up-to-date groceries. He is a native of the Buckeye State, born in Cleveland, Ohio, September 3, 1873. He was educated in the very excellent public schools of his native city and had practical experience in his line of business through working in various groceries in Cleveland. In 1900, at the age of twenty-seven, he sought the advantages offered by the west to young men of enterprise and energy and tried his fortune in Nevada, in the occupation of mining for one year. Meeting with indifferent success he came to Fresno, Cal., in 1901, and secured employment in the grocery

department of Einstein's department store, remaining with the firm for two and one-half years. While thus employed he decided to open a grocery of his own, selecting the **west end of town, at the corner of Fresno and C Streets**, as a suitable location for the venture.

At that time this section was quite in the country, surrounded by grain fields and sparsely inhabited. He purchased a shack twelve by twelve feet in dimension and a two room cottage adjoining on a lot thirty-seven by one hundred feet, for which he paid \$675. Later he added twelve feet to the side of his store. In this small space he and his wife opened their first store on a capital of seventy-five dollars. For two years his faithful help-mate kept the store while he worked for Mr. Einstein. From this small beginning evolved their present up-to-date grocery in which they have made money and prospered beyond their most sanguine expectations, large credit for the success of the enterprise being due to Mrs. Chalup's good judgment and faithful efforts. Mr. Chalup has been very successful in buying and selling real estate, and also served for one year as city trustee under appointment by Mayor W. P. Lyon.

Mrs. Chalup, before her marriage, was Miss Ellen New, a native of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. Chalup are the parents of two interesting children, Mary Louise, and Alice Ellen both of whom were born in Fresno.

Mr. Chalup is a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M.; is a thirty-second degree Mason and Past Wise Master of Rose Croix, No. 8, of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Free Masonry. He is also a member of the Fresno Lodge of Eagles.

GEORGE E. PORTER, D. C.—Few in the practice of Chiropractic science have made such rapid strides towards success as has characterized the career of Dr. George E. Porter, of Fresno. He was born in Portage County, Ohio, June 21, 1885, the son of a miller and his education was obtained in the public schools of the town adjacent to their farm. After graduating from the Alliance high school, young Porter secured employment in the sales department of the Morgan Engineering Company at Alliance and remained with them for seven years. Then desiring to enter a new field he took up the study of chiropractic and was graduated from the Universal College of Chiropractic, at Davenport, Iowa, in June, 1912. The month following he was in Fresno, Cal., and had begun the practice of his profession and since that time he has built up a wonderfully successful clientele. Dr. Porter is a member of the Federated Chiropractic Association of California and is licensed to practice in California by the State Medical Board.

The marriage of Dr. Porter, at Warren, Ohio, June 17, 1908, united him with Willa B. Marshall, a native of Pennsylvania. The Doctor and Mrs. Porter are members of the First Methodist Church in Fresno. While kept unusually busy with his professional work, Dr. Porter has found time to take an active part in the social life of Fresno and to further the progress of his home city. He is a Thirty-second degree Mason and holds membership in Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M.; he is a member and Past Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, and possesses a jewel given him in recognition of services, by members of the order. He is also a member of the Stags of Fresno, and is physician for that order.

ARTHUR N. ALBRIGHT, D. D. S.—The state of Kansas claims Dr. A. N. Albright, as a native son, as it was at Hutchinson, that state, on June 17, 1888, that he first saw the light of this terrestrial sphere. His early education was received in the grammar and high schools of his native city. Having decided upon a professional career, Arthur N. Albright, entered a dental college at Kansas City, Mo. where he carefully pursued the prescribed course in preparation for the practice of his chosen profession, and was graduated from this institution in 1911. Dr. Albright felt the call of the far West and, believing that the Golden State offered splendid opportunities for young men



H. A. Morrison

possessed of good character, untiring energy, and a determination to succeed, and particularly to those who have specially equipped themselves for their life work, he migrated to California and in the fall of 1911 located at Fresno. Here he was associated with Dr. G. W. Gilbert in the practice of his profession until the year 1914, when he opened an office for himself in the Rowell Building, where he is meeting with deserved success. His growing clientele is attributed to the able and careful treatment of his many patients coupled with his comprehensive knowledge of his profession. While attending college in Kansas City, Dr. Albright clerked in a drug store in order to earn sufficient funds to defray his expenses while in school. He is very fond of athletics and while attending college he was instrumental in organizing a base ball nine.

Arthur N. Albright, was united in marriage with Maybelle Hubbard, a native of Missouri. This union has been blessed with one son Richard Lloyd Albright. Dr. Albright is a member of The San Joaquin Valley Dental Association and the California Dental Society. He manifested his patriotism by enlisting in the Dental Reserves of the United States Army, in which arm of the service he was commissioned a First Lieutenant, but was not called into active service.

HENRY A. MOMSON.—There are few, if any, more inspiring examples of self-won success, in the history of Fresno County farmers, than that furnished by the career of Henry A. Momson, the pioneer rancher of the Summit Lake country, near Riverdale, and owner of 960 acres situated eight miles west of Riverdale. His ranch is regarded as one of the best and most highly improved in the west side district and is located within the Crescent Reclamation District, which embraces 6,000 acres of reclaimed swamp land, protected by levee. The land is very fertile and produces enormous crops of grain and alfalfa.

The owner of this splendid ranch, H. A. Momson, was born in Schleswig-Holstein, October 15, 1863. When but three years of age his father brought him to America and his boyhood days were spent in Clinton and Crawford counties, Iowa. At the early age of eleven he started to work, and in the spring of 1881 he accompanied his father to California. The father remained in Tulare and Kings Counties, and passed away in 1906, near Porterville.

Mr. Momson followed grain-farming near Hanford and Grangeville, where he rented land until 1888, when he located in the Summit Lake country, near Riverdale, Fresno County. For the first ten years he rented land, farming about 1,500 acres to grain. In 1897 he purchased his present ranch consisting of 960 acres, located eight miles west of Riverdale. Of this, 320 acres are devoted to alfalfa, the balance being sown to wheat and barley. The land is all under the Crescent Canal, the main canal being twenty-seven miles long, and 12,000 acres being irrigated by this company. His crop of alfalfa averages one ton to an acre and four cuttings a year; the wheat averages ten sacks to an acre and the barley twenty sacks, although during the season of 1917 some of the barley averaged forty sacks. The yearly total number of sacks is from six to seven thousand.

In 1906, Mr. Momson started a dairy and has at present sixty head of milch cows, including many pure Holsteins. The ranch is equipped with a large modern barn, 56 x 100 feet, and 24 feet in height. In addition to his dairy interests, he raises Poland-China hogs of a fine strain, having sold, during 1917, \$4,200 worth of pork, he also sold that same year 150 head of beef cattle. Mr. Momson is regarded as one of the leading and most successful dairy and grain farmers on the west side of Fresno County. His home, comprising a half-acre lot, is located at 145 Glenn Avenue, Fresno, and in addition to this he owns other valuable real estate in Fresno.

Mr. Momson was united in marriage on September 4, 1888, with Emma Batty, a native of Iowa, and this happy union was blessed with three chil-

dren: Christopher, who was in the aviation service of the United States Army returned home in December, 1918, having been honorably discharged; he was married in February, 1919, to Miss Elisa Hall of San Francisco, whom he met at the University of California, and he is now in charge of the farm. Eleanor is the wife of H. L. Daily, of Fresno and they have a son, Harry Lee. Dorothy graduated from the Fresno High School and is now a student of the California Art Institute of San Francisco, a department of the University of California. Mrs. Momson and the children are active members of the Presbyterian Church in Fresno.

Fraternally Mr. Momson is a Mason and member of Center Lodge, No. 465, F. & A. M., at Fresno, and is a Knight Templar. He is now a thirty-second degree Mason. He is also a member of the San Joaquin Milk Producers Association and the State Alfalfa Growers Association. He is highly esteemed in the community and always ready to give his aid to all movements for the advancement of Fresno County.

WILLIAM H. COX.—Born in Chattanooga, Tenn., June 20, 1882, William H. Cox was raised and educated in Dalton, Ga. He later returned to Chattanooga, and became an apprentice to the plumbing trade, with the firm of Williams & Wood, plumbers and steam fitters. After remaining in their employ several years, Mr. Cox came to California, in the spring of 1906, and first located in Sacramento. He worked for Henry Seiferman, the plumber, for three years, then formed a partnership with H. Dixon, under the firm name of Dixon & Cox, with a shop at Eighteenth and L Streets, specializing in cottage and bungalow work. This partnership was dissolved in 1912, and Mr. Cox then went into business for himself at 516 K Street; among other work he installed the plumbing and heating in the dormitory building of the State University Farm at Davis, Yolo County; in the Carnegie Public Library and the Placer Hotel at Auburn, Placer County; also doing flat and residence work in Sacramento.

In the fall of 1914, Mr. Cox located in Fresno, and soon after his arrival here opened a plumbing shop at 2547 Tulare Street, and engaged in the plumbing and heating contracting business, and from the beginning met with the success due his experience and reputation for reliability, his field of operations extending over the entire San Joaquin Valley. He installed the plumbing in the Liberty Market, and the steam heating plant in the Liberty Theater; the plumbing and heating in the Wormser Furniture Company Building; in the new Warner Jewelry Store, on J Street; the James Porteous Block at Tulare and P Streets. Mr. Cox has installed plumbing in over fifty cottages and bungalows in Fresno, many for the Fresno Home Builders, and homes in the Alta Vista tract. He also installed the gas plant, plumbing and heating in the Jacob Hansen ranch home; also supplied homes in Barstow and Perrin Colonies, Fresno County; installed the plumbing in the Manual Training School of Madera, and the Alpha grammar school at Alpha, Madera County; also in the Madera Municipal Swimming Baths, and the Cutler School at Cutler, Tulare County; also the plumbing and heating in the Newkirk School in the city of Fresno, and the swimming baths in the State Normal School at Fresno. Since January, 1919, his plumbing shop has been located at 2555 White Avenue, Fresno.

The marriage of Mr. Cox, which occurred in Sacramento, Cal., united him with Maude Pauline Clark, a native of Utah, and two children have been born to them: Clark, born in Sacramento, and Mary, born in Fresno. Mr. Cox is a member of the Master Plumbers' Association, and of the national, state and local plumbers' association. Fraternally, he is a Mason and a member of Center Lodge, No. 465, F. & A. M., of Fresno. A man of sterling character and with progress for his watchword, he has been an active participant in the growth and development of Fresno, city and county, and stands ready at all times to aid in advancing the county still further on its march toward prosperity.



J. W. Simpson

JAMES WILLIAM SIMPSON.—A very successful general contractor who is doing a large business is J. W. Simpson, who has the good fortune to have in his wife a person of real natural ability and pronounced energy. The couple are known for their hospitality, and they enjoy the esteem and good will of everyone.

Mr. Simpson was born in Coleman Valley, Sonoma County, Cal., on April 26, 1875, the son of J. F. Simpson, whose birthplace was Medora, Macoupin County, Ill. In 1852 the father crossed the great plains to California, driving an ox team, and here he first followed mining and then lumbering. He settled in Sonoma County, ran a dairy, and about 1876 went to Salinas Valley. In 1882 he came to Fresno City, then a small burg, and worked awhile as a farm hand. Later he engaged in farming on his own responsibility, and leased some of the Bank of California lands. He engaged in grain-farming on a large scale, and ran sixty head of mules and two combined harvesters and reapers. He raised and lost big crops, but later he succeeded in getting water onto his tract, and this saved him from disaster. It was while working with his father that J. W. Simpson helped to improve 580 acres of the Laguna De Tache Grant into an experimental muscat vineyard, the first one on the entire grant of 62,000 acres. Their next venture was the Little Sharon vineyard, 120 acres of the Sharon estate, twenty miles northwest from Fresno, into a muscat vineyard. After this endeavor the elder Simpson retired to private life and now resides on his home ranch, contented and happy in the thought that he has done his full share towards developing the resources of Fresno County. He owns a ranch of forty acres, five and a half miles south of Fresno, on Fig Avenue, known as the home place, which has been his residence for years. He has operated from this point, putting out vineyards on contract. He owns eighty acres in the Kerman district, and 160 acres on Summit Lake.

Mrs. J. F. Simpson was Margaret M. Frazer before her marriage, and she was a native of Illinois. She crossed the plains to California when she was a little girl; and with her husband she is still enjoying life. Six children blessed their union, and five of them are living.

James William was the second oldest of the family, and was brought up in Fresno County from his seventh year. He attended the public schools, and recalls with affection his first teacher, H. Hadsell, as well as the second, A. M. Drew. He was reared on a farm, and he learned to drive the big teams in the grain-fields. At the age of fourteen, he began to haul wood out of the fields to Fresno, using an eight-mule team. He remained with his father until he was twenty-three, and then he began for himself.

He began dry farming and summer-fallowing, first in 1900, on the site of Roeding Park; and then he cultivated the Bank of California lands, in the Kerman district, also according to the dry method. His results were varying and not always satisfactory, but when irrigation came, he at once began to make a success of his enterprises. This encouraged him to expand in contracting to improve lands; he leveled and checked, built ditches and graded, and later he gave up farming to give all his attention to contracting. He more and more built up a reputation that was capital in itself, and improved to a high degree thousands of acres, so that many ranchers were able to start successfully.

In the meantime Mr. Simpson bought forty acres on Jensen Avenue, thirteen miles west of Fresno, which he improved to alfalfa and where he established a good dairy. He set out Thompson seedless grapes and built for himself a nice residence. He undertook contracts all over Fresno County and throughout the San Joaquin Valley, and he even went into the Bay district around San Francisco. He accepted railroad contracts from the Ocean Shore Railroad Company and the San Francisco Railroad, and built the copper mine road from Gordon Switch. For about twenty years he was a general contractor in California, and was successful from the start. One large piece of development work undertaken by J. W. Simpson, in which he was asso-

ciated with J. F. Kennedy, was that of improving 1,000 acres in what is now known as the Rolinda section. They leveled and checked and sowed alfalfa on the entire tract, and this tract was sold off in small holdings just twenty months from the time they began their important work. During the entire time that Mr. Simpson has been engaged in contracting he has farmed to grain, generally on a large scale. The last big venture was 4,000 acres of the Collins estate, six miles northeast of Clovis, where he raised grain.

At Hanford, Mr. Simpson was married to Miss Ellen Trabucco, a native of Mariposa County and the daughter of John Trabucco, who was also a native. Her grandfather was Louis Trabucco, a pioneer who very early came to Mariposa County, where he was one of the earliest miners and merchants. There, after being the proprietor for years of a well-known store, he died, respected by all who knew him. His wife is still living in Mariposa County. The father, John Trabucco, was educated at the public schools and married Nancy Choisser, who was born in Illinois, and came with her parents, when she was three years old, to Mariposa County; her father was engaged in farming and in the raising of stock, and they still reside in Bear Valley. Mrs. Simpson was the oldest of nine children, was educated at the public schools as a child, and later graduated from the Notre Dame College.

Mr. Simpson is a loyal Democrat, and few citizens work more intelligently and consistently to raise the standards of citizenship and to make the community more prosperous and the locality more attractive.

JOHN BALEY.—A farmer and dairyman with an intensely interesting family history, interwoven with the most stirring chapters in the formation of the Golden State, is John Baley, a native son who first saw the light at Visalia on June 29, 1864. His father was William Wright Baley, of Illinois, who was reared in Nodaway County, Mo., and crossed the plains in 1849 with two brothers, Caleb and Gillum. The latter was later a judge in Fresno County for fourteen years, while Caleb died in the mines on Feather River the same year that he came to California. After mining for three years, W. W. Baley returned to Missouri, where he had married, years before, Miss Nancy Funderburk, a native of Tennessee, who grew up in the Iron State. In 1859, in the same train with Rev. Joel Hedgepeth and his parents, W. W. Baley and his brother, Judge Baley, again crossed the plains with oxen and wagons. Along the Colorado River the Indians attacked them and killed and wounded many. Judge Baley killed the chief, but the Indians stole their cattle, or killed what they could not lead off. Captain Rose was in charge of the train; the Rev. Hedgepeth as a lad was there; and so was Mrs. McCardle, then Ellen Baley, who was lost but later was found. All the party, including the children, had to walk back to Albuquerque, a tramp of six weeks; and when they had sojourned there for ten months, recuperated and gathered together some stock, they continued their overland journey to Visalia.

For some time thereafter Mr. Baley was engaged in teaming from Stockton to Visalia, hauling provisions and supplying the wants of the settlers along the way; and in the fall of 1864 he came to Fresno County and located some land at Academy. He had been assisted in the work of teaming by his son Henry, and the latter now helped him in the raising of stock and grain after he had handsomely improved his property. Comfortably situated a mile from town, Mr. Baley continued there until he died, on November 18, 1882, aged sixty-two years. At the same place later Mrs. Baley passed away, on March 6, 1900, in her eightieth year.

Eleven children made up the interesting family of Mr. and Mrs. Baley, and seven of these grew to maturity: Sarah Margaret, who became Mrs. John G. Simpson, died at Exeter on May 3, 1918; Nancy Jane passed away at Visalia on August 6, 1861; Henry Gillum is in Fresno; Bertheney Elizabeth, died on December 1, 1846; William Washington passed away in Exeter, on July 6, 1915; George Pierce died at Tollhouse, on June 3, 1913; Caleb died



Milora D. Bailey



John Bailey

at Sentinel, on August 8, 1912; Mary Patience passed away on the plains; Benjamin Baxter bade good-bye to earthly scenes at Academy, on November 22, 1867, and he was the first person buried in the Academy cemetery; John is the subject of this sketch; and Isabell Catherine, who was born at Academy, is the wife of the Rev. J. M. Parker of the Methodist Church South, and resides at Corning in Tehama County.

Reared at Academy, John Baley attended the local public school there and at the same time served his apprenticeship at farming. He assisted his mother, and while having a good time, for a lad, learned all about raising grain and stock. When ready for the more serious responsibilities of life, he was married near Woodville, in Tulare County, on December 29, 1886, his bride being Miss Filora Odom, a native of Cass County, Ga. Her father was the Rev. Alex Odom, who was born in Forsyth County, that state, and who, having duly studied theology, entered the ministry of the Methodist Church South. Before taking holy orders, he joined the Confederate Army in the Civil War; and when he began to preach, in 1868, he first occupied the pulpit in Georgia. In 1874 he came to Fresno County as a pastor; and while at Academy the following year, he organized St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church in Fresno. He also organized other churches throughout the state, from Shasta to Kern County. He was forty years in the ministry, and during that time he was for three years elder of Colusa district, when he made his headquarters at Chico. He spent his last years at Clovis, and died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Baley. Mrs. Odom was Elizabeth Fendley before her marriage, and she was born in Gordon County, Ga. Now she makes her home with Mrs. John Baley, and she is the honored mother of nine children, eight of whom grew up: S. Oscar is in Roseville; Filora is Mrs. Baley; Mary is Mrs. Moutrey of Oakland; George M. is in Clovis; William R. is in Fresno; Bessie is Mrs. Lester of Clovis; Ethel has become Mrs. Henry Ambrosia of Clovis; Atticus resides at Rutherford, Cal., and Maggie J., who died at the tender age of eight.

After his marriage, Mr. Baley continued farming, and operated the old homestead at Academy, where he had resided from the time he was six months old. For a while he leased lands from the Simpsons, utilizing as many as 600 acres; and there he came to have some three thousand or more head of sheep. He also went in for grain-farming, and employed from two to eight horses in the work.

In 1915 Mr. Baley sold out and located at Barstow, where he engaged in raising alfalfa. He bought eighty acres eleven miles from Fresno, checked and leveled the land and prepared it for alfalfa of which he can get several crops a year. His land was under the Herndon canal, and having installed an electric pumping-plant, with a ten-horsepower motor, and a four-inch pump feeding into a reservoir of half an acre, he had the best of facilities for irrigation. He ran a dairy of twenty cows, and his two sons, William Odom and Thomas M., were associated with him in managing the farm. Having brought it to a high state of cultivation he sold it in 1919, and purchased eighty acres on Belmont Avenue, west of Madera Avenue—an alfalfa farm where he now resides. Aside from the canal he has two large pumping plants ample for irrigating the whole tract. It is his intention to set it to Thompson seedless.

Five children have come to Mr. and Mrs. Baley: Leona is Mrs. F. C. Simpson of Sanger; William Odom, is serving as a member of the United States Marines at Mare Island, is an expert marksman and is instructor of rifle range; Thomas Marvin, assists his parents on the ranch; and Bessie Belle, graduate of Sanger High, is at home. The memory of one son Elmer H., is affectionately treasured. They are members of the Methodist Church South, at Academy, of which Mr. Baley is a trustee; and he has also served as a school trustee in that district for years. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World, and in national politics adheres to the principles of the long-established Democratic party.

NOAH E. JAMES.—The rapid growth of Fresno, city and county, has brought to this section of the state men expert in the different lines of business involved in the upbuilding of a growing community, and each has done his share toward making it one of the show places of California. None more so than Noah E. James, one of the best known men in the building line in the San Joaquin Valley. Born in Logan County, Ill., November 14, 1870, he is a son of Benjamin F. and Eliza (Bowman) James, the former a native of Iowa and the latter of Illinois. The mother died in the East, and the father, with his three sons, came to California in 1876. A carpenter by trade, he located in the San Joaquin Valley and followed contracting and building all his life. He now resides in Los Angeles and is eighty-four years of age.

Noah E. James, now the only one living of the children, finished his education in the public schools of Oakland, and on its completion, became associated with his father in building contracting, working in Tulare County, at Tulare, Tipton, Exeter, Lindsay and Porterville. They built many flumes in the orange section around Porterville and Exeter.

In 1900 Noah E. James located in Fresno and engaged in contracting and building; some of his work includes: the Bert Harvey residence; the Staples home; the M. Cahn residence; the machine shop and annex to the Fresno High School; the Crematory; many cottages and bungalows and, besides his local work, he contracted for building in other parts of the county. He has been foreman of construction for many contractors, among them, E. J. Farr, James Smith, Frank Rehorn, and Emmet Riggins, in fact, there is hardly a building erected in Fresno, in recent years, in which he has not had a hand in the construction.

The marriage of Mr. James united him with Ida Lillian Haney, a native of Macon County, Ill., and eight children have been born to them, all natives of California, as follows: Helen M.; Grace E., wife of Robert York; Marie; Lurene; Elmer; Russell; Mildred; and Frank. Fraternally Mr. James is a member of the Central California Lodge of Odd Fellows, in which order he is a Past Grand, having passed all the chairs; he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and for the past three years served as Chief Forester of the lodge. He is also a member of the Carpenters' Union, No. 701, of Fresno. In April, 1917, Mr. James was appointed by the county board of supervisors superintendent of construction of buildings, for Fresno County. This is one of the most important positions in the county, and he is superintending the work in his usual highly satisfactory manner. An expert builder, Mr. James has aided materially in giving Fresno the type of buildings in keeping with the prosperity and progress of the county, and has been an important factor in the life of the community.

WILLIAM C. BERKHOLTZ.—The very efficient chief of the Fresno City Fire Department, William C. Berkholtz, is a native of Illinois. He was born in Chicago, November 15, 1876, and was educated in the public schools of that city until his twentieth year. During his vacations he assisted his father with his business and when his school days were over he became a fireman on the Illinois Central Railroad, running out of Chicago. Later he went to San Marcial, N. M., where he worked in the same capacity on the Santa Fe Railroad. He was promoted to the position of locomotive engineer on the Albuquerque Division of the Coast Lines, running from Albuquerque to Gallup, N. M., continuing until 1907. This year marked his advent in California and Fresno, and for the next twelve months he was in the employ of the Santa Fe and the Southern Pacific Railroads, when he resigned.

On July 1, 1908, Mr. Berkholtz became a member of the Fresno City Fire Department as driver of Engine No. 5. He entered into the duties of his new position with a desire to please those in authority and he soon attracted the attention of his superiors and was appointed lieutenant of Engine No. 1, and afterwards to the position of captain, and still later to outside

captain. So well did he perform his duties that he was promoted to assistant chief of the department on October 1, 1917. Still greater honors came to him and on November 1, of that year, he was made Chief of the department, which position he now holds. He is ever on the alert for the betterment of the department, both in maintaining the most modern apparatus and in the safety and comfort of the firemen. The department consists of sixty-nine men, including Chief Berkholtz, first assistant chief, J. E. Caldwell, and second assistant chief, William A. Washburn. There are six modern fire-houses, arranged for convenience and comfort of the men, and all the equipment is motor driven. This move eliminated thirty-five horses and was made possible by the mayor and council without calling for a special bond issue. Fresno is now placed in the front rank of the cities of the Coast in preparedness. The entire change from horse drawn to motor driven apparatus has covered a period of six years.

In the spring of 1918 Chief Berkholtz was sent to San Francisco by the city authorities of Fresno to study conditions of the department of that city and while there he was made a member pro-tem of the department and attended several fires besides inspecting the fire houses and equipment whereby he gained valuable information and upon his return to Fresno he began putting into execution the ideas he had evolved from his experience while in San Francisco. While he was in attendance at the Pacific Fire Chiefs Convention in Oakland, September, 1918, he learned of the movement that was being put in operation to prevent fires. He made a special study of the matter and upon his return home at once set about to interest the citizens of Fresno in the movement with the result that Jay W. Stevens, formerly Chief of the Fire Prevention Bureau of Portland, Ore., and now Chief of the Fire Prevention Bureau of the Pacific, and his assistant, J. H. Schiveley, came to Fresno with reels of pictures and slides showing what constitutes fire hazards and how to safe-guard against danger of fires and to remove fire-breeding hazards, as well as methods of fighting fires. These pictures were shown at all the theaters, various clubs, the State Normal School and in the public schools of the city. Lectures were given with a view of enlisting the citizens, club members and the school children in particular, that they might be more thoughtful in preventing the accumulation of combustible matter and in eradicating to a large degree the danger of fires by a systematic cleaning-up of the entire city. In other words each person was made to understand his or her special duty of "what I can do to prevent fires." The movement gained ground and the clean-up will be vigorously prosecuted by second chief, W. A. Washburn, who will be in complete charge of this department. Every home and business house in Fresno will be carded, the places inspected at regular periods and a complete record kept of conditions as found with the result that the rates of insurance will be lowered and the fire hazard reduced to a minimum in Fresno. The showing of these pictures is a strictly western idea and is rapidly spreading to various parts of the United States.

Chief Berkholtz is an indefatigable worker for the building-up of the department and for the welfare of the firemen under his direction. He is not satisfied with anything but the very best in all departments and has reduced the management to a strictly business basis. He has the respect of all the men in the department and is fast winning a name and place for himself in the Fire Chief's Association of the Coast, as well as in his home city.

Chief Berkholtz was united in marriage with Miss Neste Albertson, a native of South Dakota, and this union has been blessed by the birth of two children, Helmer U. B. and Frederick. Chief Berkholtz is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen and of the Loyal Order of Moose. He holds a prominent position among the progressive men of Fresno and is proving himself worthy of the confidence reposed in him by the city authorities and his fellow citizens.

FRANK L. IRWIN.—Fresno's popular young city trustee, Frank L. Irwin, was born in Springfield, Ill. on November 3, 1876, and is the son of Washington and Maria (Mosely) Irwin. His father's occupation was that of builder and contractor. Both parents are living, and number among their children five boys and three girls.

Frank L. received a good public school education and learned the brick laying trade as a young man, working at that business for some years in Illinois. Afterward, imbued with the thought that there was a larger sphere in the West for an active, energetic young man, he came to Berkeley, remaining there for one year and going thence to Fresno, in January, 1907, where he engaged in the contracting and building business. Among other important public buildings erected under his supervision were the Fresno High School, Lincoln annex and the Lowell annex, the Emerson and numerous other buildings. He had charge of the masonry at the State Normal.

Frank L. Irwin was married in November of 1898 to Miss Ethel C. Crowder. They are the parents of three children, Edna, Lyle and Charles. In the spring of 1913 Mr. Irwin was elected to his present office, city trustee, for a term of four years.

Fraternally he is a member of the I. O. O. F. and W. O. W. In religion he is a member of the First Methodist Church of Fresno, and politically is a Republican. He is active in public work, particularly in the labor movement being president of Fresno Labor Council, and Fresno Building Trade Council, and always has the interest of the community at heart. Mr. Irwin has many friends and is highly respected as well as much liked by his fellow citizens. He resides with his family at 403 Fresno Avenue.

JOSEPH WEBSTER POTTER.—Coming from a long line of sturdy pioneers, Joseph Webster Potter, who is now in the prime of life, has taken advantage of the splendid and unusual opportunities afforded him through having been born and reared in the great West. His birthplace was only three-quarters of a mile from his present residence northeast of Clovis, Fresno County, where he was born on December 31, 1876.

His father, John Wesley Potter, was a native of Cooper County, Mo., born near the town of Boonville, January 5, 1837, and coming to California with his parents in 1853, when he was sixteen. They located in San Joaquin County, where his father and brother took up a homestead preemption and engaged in farming and stock-raising. They remained there until 1871, then purchased a herd of sheep, which they drove to Fresno County, locating near Clovis. For nearly twenty years they continued in this industry, until about 1892.

It was here that John Wesley Potter, father of Joseph Webster, eventually purchased five sections of land, and followed the occupation of farming. In 1891 he set out one of the first vineyards in this section. Later he was one of the first to see the possibilities in growing figs, and devoted twenty acres to this productive fruit, setting them out first in 1906. He was among the successful pioneers of Fresno County, and not only did he demonstrate his ability in agriculture, but for two years in the early days he followed mining with no small returns. His wife, Martha Jane Webster, was born in Napa County, Cal., in 1852, she being the daughter of pioneers who crossed the plains that same year and settled in Napa County. She married Mr. Potter in Vacaville, Solano County, and they were the parents of three children: Mrs. Kate Clark of Kingsburg; Joseph Webster Potter, the subject of this sketch; and Mrs. Lizzie Russell, of Clovis.

Joseph W. received his education in the public schools of the Mississippi school district, later attending the Pacific Methodist College of Santa Rosa for four years, from which he was graduated in 1898 with the degree of A. B. Filled with enthusiasm and new ideas, the young man started practical everyday life, well fitted for any position which might open for him, and



J. Wehita Potter.

he has found many opportunities to put to good use his earlier years of preparation.

He joined his father in working on the home place, making a specialty of raisins, figs and peaches. At the present writing he has under cultivation forty acres of grapes, ten of peaches, thirty acres of figs, and fifteen acres set out to olives, all under both ditch and pumping plant. He became connected with the First National Bank of Clovis, of which his father was a stockholder and vice-president, and after his father's death on April 15, 1915, he was elected director and president of the bank at the same time. He also took charge of his father's estate.

On January 5, 1903, Miss Bertha Frances Allen became the bride of J. W. Potter, the marriage ceremony being performed near Upper Lake, Lake County, Cal. They have four children: Marjorie Dorothy, John Allen, Russell, and Donald. The family are members of Grace Methodist Church of Clovis. Mr Potter is not only active in the church, holding the office of trustee, but he is superintendent of the Sunday-school. He is a member of the board of trustees of Clovis Union High School. His father was not only a pioneer member of this church, but an ardent supporter of all movements for public good. So likewise is the son—a citizen of sterling qualities claiming the highest esteem and respect of the community.

JOHN AND ALICE YOUNG.—For the past twelve years this popular couple have been residents of Fresno County where Mr. Young is well and favorably known as the foreman of Thompson Brothers Construction Company who maintain offices at 1514 Fresno Street, Fresno. He was born in Bluffton, Ind., near the Wabash River on November 21, 1872. He received a public school education and fitted himself to be a mechanic and as an engineer he has had charge of steam engines for various companies in the different parts of the country where he has lived. Soon after he was married Mr. Young located at Bay City, Mich., where he was in the employ of a large lumber company, afterwards he held the position of engineer in the Fort Wayne Knitting Mills at Fort Wayne, Ind., and remained there until on account of ill health it was decided that he should come to California for an entire change. This was in 1907, and soon after Mr. Young became engineer for the Fresno By-Products Company for two years. He then was associated with Worswick Paving Company and worked in several of the growing towns in the San Joaquin Valley until he became connected with the present concern and went to live at the O. M. Thompson ranch, located about two and one-half miles southeast from Fresno.

In all his operations since his marriage at Fort Wayne, Ind., Mr. Young has had the hearty cooperation of his wife. She was in maidenhood, Miss Alice E. Richardson, born in Fort Wayne, the daughter of Austin and Ellen (Grayless) Richardson, natives of Southern Indiana. On the maternal side Mrs. Young represents some pioneer stock in California, whither an uncle, Charles Grayless, who was owner of 10,000 acres near where the present city of Fort Wayne stands, and had large bands of horses and cattle there and was rated a very wealthy man for that period, came to the gold fields to increase his fortune and possibly for adventure. He became well-known among the early stockmen and miners, was a highly respected and wealthy man, made his home in Stockton, where his good wife died, and soon afterwards he went back to Indiana where he passed away. The Grayless people were sturdy, vigorous and active people and it was from them that Mrs. Young inherited her physical strength and love for the great out door life and to care for stock. At the ranch over which she has supervision she cares for a dairy herd of over twenty milch cows and a band of nearly seventy-five horses.

It is interesting to note that after the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Young they went to Bay City, Mich., where Mrs. Young took a position as chief cook in a lumber camp and fed more than thirty men for over three years and

at the same time looked after the comfort of her husband. She has never shirked a duty that would tend to aid her husband and on the ranch she has reared her family of children to lives of usefulness. To this worthy couple seven children have been born, three of whom died in infancy. The four living are Harry R., now at home assisting his mother and trying to regain his health, lost after he had joined the United States Army, in which he became a sergeant. He was strong and robust when he left for camp but by being inoculated by army surgeons he became ill and was discharged from the service; John N., was also in service and received his training at Camp Lewis, Wash., and saw service in the Hawaiian Islands, where he held a responsible position during the great World War; Helen and Rebecca are both at home. Mrs. Young is intensely devoted to her family and her first consideration is how best to help her husband and children. She is generous to a fault and commands the respect and esteem of her community. She is a patriot and is proud of the gallant sons who have served their country in its trying times. She is a woman of good sound business judgment and has been an invaluable assistant to her devoted husband in all his business ventures.

SIDNEY L. PLATT.—Among the substantial and enterprising citizens of Fresno is Sidney L. Platt, secretary and treasurer of Madary's Planing Mill Company of Fresno, occupying quarters at No. 1805 Anna Street. Mr. Platt, who is of English parentage, was born in Africa, May 25, 1864. His father was a missionary, and when Sidney L. was a child three years of age the family removed to Boston, Mass., going thence to Atchison County, Kans., where young Sidney was brought up on a farm. He experienced the usual lot in life that falls to a farmer's son, attended the country schools, and later supplemented his schooling with a business education obtained at Emporia, Kans. He came to Fresno in January, 1888, intending to make a visit of a few weeks, but like many other of California's Eastern visitors, was so fascinated with Fresno's wonderful beauty, the salubrity of her climate and the bright prospects of her financial future, that he has been there ever since. He secured employment in the office of the Mechanic's Planing Mill, at the corner of H and Inyo Streets. A year and a half later the mill burned, and Mr. Platt became deputy tax collector for one season under tax collector A. D. Ewing. The company rebuilt the mill one block south of the old location, and Mr. Platt returned to their employ. Some time later he entered the employ of Mr. M. A. Madary in his planing mill, as chief of office, and in 1905, when Madary's Planing Mill was incorporated, became secretary and treasurer of the company, the position he now holds. He is one of the owners of the mill, of which Mr. Madary is president and A. M. Loper vice-president; and he is also part owner in a valuable fruit ranch owned by the company, consisting of forty acres of orange trees in full bearing, ten acres of two-year-old trees, and thirty acres of peaches in bearing.

Mr. Platt married Miss Irene Thayer, a native of Minnesota. They have two sons. Lawrence T. aged twenty-one, passed through the Fresno public schools and the Military Academy at San Rafael and entered Stanford University. Shortly after the United States entered the World War, he enlisted in the Naval Reserves, and in November, 1917, became attached to the special dispatch boat U. S. S. Broadbill. He saw service in the Pacific and assisted in the capture of the German raider in those waters. He then went to Seattle and became attached to the U. S. S. West Ekonk, and sailed to San Francisco and New York City via the Panama Canal, going thence to Brest, France, in convoy. He returned to New York, and on November 4, 1918, sailed for Genoa, Italy, as captain of the gun crew. He is now on his second trip. The second son, Kenneth Lloyd, aged seventeen, was a student in the Fresno public schools, and is now a student in the Fresno high.

Mr. Platt has always been much interested in music. He helped to organize the Fresno Male Chorus, and has been an active member and served as vice-chairman for five years, and is now chairman. He has been active in choir work in the First Methodist Church of Fresno, of which he has been a member and in which he has held various offices. At present he is one of the trustees of said church. Mrs. Platt is also very active in church work, and for fifteen years was organist of the church. She is also past president of the Parlor Lecture Club and is very active in war work, in the interest of the Red Cross, Thrift Stamps, etc.

Mr. Platt is a member of Las Palmas Lodge, No. 343, as well as Chapter 69, F. & A. M., and of the Fresno Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F. He is also a Past Commander of the Fresno Commandery, and a member of Islam Temple of the Shrine.

JOHN R. MURPHY.—Among the large corps of experienced and able dairymen of California, few men are better known than John R. Murphy, the progressive commissioner, whose father was James Murphy, a native of Ireland and a pioneer dairyman in California, who died on March 21, 1896. His mother, Bridget Murphy, died in 1893. He was educated in the public schools of Novato, Marin County, having been born in Hartford, Conn., on March 21, 1865, and been brought west to the land of greater opportunity. Just when he attained his majority, he lost his father, and there devolved upon him the support of a family of eight, all of whom he reared and educated.

For a while Mr. Murphy was in the dairying business, but in 1893 he sold out his interests and entered the employ of the Western Refrigerating Company, at Petaluma, later making an engagement with the Danish Creamery at Fresno. There his experience, enterprise and fidelity to duty soon made him known much beyond the confines of the county.

At Petaluma, in November, 1896, Mr. Murphy married Mary Early, the daughter of the well-known pioneer, James Early, who crossed the plains with an oxteam in 1852; and as the result of this exceptionally happy marriage, one daughter, Mary Alice Murphy, now an attractive girl of twelve years, was born. Mr. and Mrs. Murphy are devoted Catholics, and the family attend that growing church.

A Republican always active in the campaigning of that party, Mr. Murphy was appointed State Dairy Commissioner, on July 1, 1909, by Governor James Norris Gillett, and so well has he handled the trust committed to his care, that he still holds that position. It seems natural that he should be a leader in the Commercial Club.

JAMES MALCOMB CRAWFORD.—One of the leading optometrists in the state, James Malcomb Crawford, has met with wonderful success in the practice of his profession in Fresno. Locating here in 1905, he has since that date been identified with the best interests of the city and county, and has taken an active part in the upbuilding of his profession in California. Born in Bell County, Texas, December 20, 1871, he received his early education in the public schools of his native state. He took up the study of optometry in 1898, attending the South Bend College of Optics. After graduating, he began the practice of his profession in his home town, Temple, Texas, afterwards taking post graduate work at the Chicago Ophthalmic College and Hospital. In 1900, Dr. Crawford removed to Denison, Texas, and practiced there until 1905, when he located in Fresno.

Dr. Crawford is a member of the State Optometry Association, and a charter member of the National Association. In 1911 he was appointed by Governor Johnson a member of the State Board of Optometry, which office he now holds, being secretary of the board. There are only three members on this board, and to be appointed one is an honor and distinction accorded to few in his profession.

Besides his large practice, Dr. Crawford has found time to devote to agricultural development in the county. He is the owner of a large dairy ranch at Caruthers, where he has a herd of pure-bred Holstein registered cattle. His bull is Segis Pontiac Count, registered, son of King Segis Pontiac Count. Two heifers, sisters of his bull, but owned in New York state, have taken world's records in more than a hundred different tests. He also has on his ranch fine blooded Duroc-Jersey hogs, and white leghorn chickens.

Fraternally Dr. Crawford is a Mason and has taken his Thirtieth degree; he is a member of Las Palmas Lodge of Fresno. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, and is Past Chancellor of that order, having passed all degrees in the order. Dr. Crawford's marriage united him with Annie L. Dickey, a native of Tennessee, and four children have been born to them: Edwin D., a member of the Aviation Corps of the U. S. A., and in partnership with his father; Harriett; James M., Jr., attending the Agricultural College at Corvallis, Ore.; and Ellen.

JAMES A. BURNS.—We do not know that the senior member of the well known law firm, Burns and Watkins, of Fresno, is any relation to the renowned poet, Bobby Burns, but he has a good old Scottish name that he may well be proud of.

James A. Burns is a native of Richville, Washington County, Ill., born August 12, 1852. Quiet, unostentatious, and of studious inclinations, he attended the Washington Seminary in his native city and followed the occupation of a pedagogue in his native state and eastern Missouri, then, his inclinations leading in the direction of the law, he became a law student in the office of John M. Breeze at Richville, Ill., and was admitted to practice November 6, 1880. Allured by California's charms and the possibilities of a future, in that state, in his chosen profession, on December 5, 1880, one month after his admission to the bar, he arrived at Lemoore, Kings County (then Tulare County), where he began the practice of law. He met with success, and after serving for two years in that place as Justice of the Peace, removed in 1884 to Hanford, where he continued the practice of his profession until 1886, when he came to the bustling town of Selma, in the center of the fruit section of Fresno County. In 1902 he removed to his present home, Fresno, and again opened a law office.

His marriage with Annie Lewis, a native of Kentucky, was consummated August 12, 1879, two children being the result of this union: Nannie, who is the wife of Mr. Burns' law partner, W. J. Watkins; and Robert, well known in Fresno musical circles as an excellent cornetist.

Fraternally Mr. Burns is a member of the B. P. O. Elks, and the Independent Order of Foresters. Mr. Burns has built up a large practice in the valley and is familiarly known among his intimate friends as "Jimmy" Burns. He has never aspired to any public office.

HORACE THORWALDSON.—The early scenes in the life of Fresno County's estimable ex-sheriff, Horace Thorwaldson, were set in the land of ice, snow and the reindeer—the outpost of Danish dominion in the Western Hemisphere. He was born at Dupivog, on the eastern coast of Iceland, February 4, 1869. His ancestors for the past thousand years were Norsemen of pure Scandinavian stock, speaking the old Norse language.

The success in life which Mr. Thorwaldson has attained, is due entirely to his unaided efforts, for he is, in the broadest meaning of the term, self-made, possessing the characteristic thrift and frugality of his Northern ancestry, combined with unfaltering determination of purpose which has resulted in his becoming a prosperous citizen of the country.

He is the son of Thorwald and Vilborg Thorwaldson. His father was a farmer and died in Denmark when Horace was a lad eight years of age, leaving a widow with ten children. Three years after the death of the husband and father, the mother emigrated to the United States with her family,

the oldest a boy twenty-one years of age, and the youngest aged four, going to North Dakota in territorial days. In the Red River Valley the family bought an ox team and wagon and going forty miles out upon the prairie located in Pembina County, September, 1880, where they squatted upon the virgin soil. The family was poor and lived in a log house, suffering the hardships that inevitably fall to the lot of pioneer families. Horace hired out at the age of twelve, breaking prairie land, barefooted, with a yoke of oxen, earning money in summer to enable him to attend school in winter in the log cabin school house. He acquired a common school education and in 1886, when sixteen years of age, in quest of a larger field of activity, sought his fortune farther west, going to Seattle, Wash., where he remained until 1891, learning in the meantime the saddler's trade. In 1893 he visited the World's Fair and various places and states, then returned to Seattle for a short time, going thence to San Francisco and finally locating, that year, at Watsonville, Santa Cruz County, Cal., where he conducted a saddle and harness business until December 29, 1898, when he located in Fresno and engaged in the same line of business, which he continued until January, 1910, when he sold and retired from commercial life. He then purchased 340 acres of land on Elkhorn Slough, west of Riverdale, which he still owns. He improved this land, and also engaged in stock raising. On January 1, 1911, he was appointed field deputy sheriff under and by Sheriff Walter S. McSwain, serving under him until Mr. McSwain's death, December 6, 1915, when by a unanimous vote of the supervisors he was appointed to succeed Mr. McSwain as sheriff of Fresno County. This, his first political office, was an unqualified success; his term of office expired January 1, 1919.

At Watsonville, June 10, 1896, he was united in marriage with Miss Cornelia E. Peckham, a member of the well known pioneer family of Peckhams, prominent early settlers of California. Two children were the result of this union; Wilma Abbie, born March 5, 1897, and Elis Oliver, born May 1, 1899.

In his religious views Mr. Thorwaldson is a Protestant. In his fraternal relations he is a member of several orders, namely: Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M.; Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. Elks; the Eagles; the Woodmen of the World; Fresno Lodge, No. 138, K. of P., and the Odd Fellows.

PROFESSOR ALBERT R. J. GRAEPP.—While Fresno has advanced with phenomenal strides in civic and commercial growth she has also kept pace in the cultivation of the arts and is most fortunate in numbering among her citizens Prof. Albert R. J. Graepp, teacher of music, whose studio is at his residence, 2747 Mariposa Street. Professor Graepp is a native of Germany, the country of renowned musicians whose names are recorded in the annals of fame, and was born June 11, 1859, in Pomerania, Northern Germany. Possessed of a naturally beautiful voice he sang alto in school before he could read, and at the age of eight years began studying the violin and pipe organ, also learning thoroughly the construction of the latter instrument. In his youth he attended the higher citizens' school, and in 1876, at the age of seventeen, crossed the water to America, finishing his education in this country. For two years he was a student at St. Jerome College, Kitchener, Ontario, where he continued his musical education. He next attended Thiel College at Greenville, Mercer County, Pa., and while there instructed the college band. He graduated from that institution with the degree of bachelor of arts, in 1882, afterwards locating in Philadelphia, Pa., where he took a course in theology and philology at the Evangelical Lutheran Theological Seminary, at that time located at Franklin Square, but later removed to Mount Airy. This institution was affiliated with the University of Pennsylvania. He graduated in 1885 with the degree of master of arts. He next took up missionary work in the churches of New Jersey and was afterward instructor of music in Ivy Hall Seminary, a school for girls, at

Bridgeton, N. J., teaching piano and violin and instructing students from other academies who came to him. He then accepted a call to take charge of the musical department and assist in teaching the German language in his Alma Mater, Thiel University. Accepting the position he remained at the university until 1893, while there doing most excellent work in the musical department, among other things organizing a college band and college orchestra. Afterwards he located near Halifax, Nova Scotia, and engaged in missionary work.

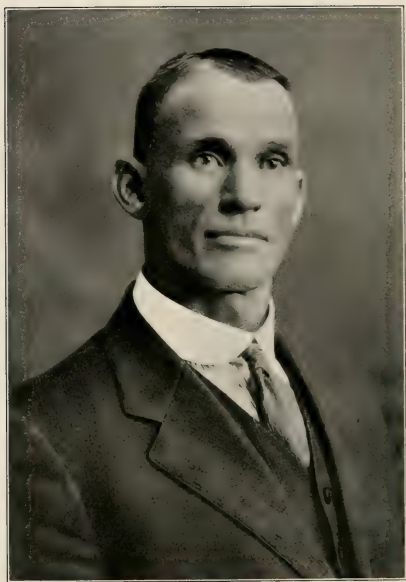
In 1897 he accepted a position as instructor of music in Sacred Heart College at Prairie du Chien, Wis. For five years he devoted his energies to building up the musical department of the college, doing a grand work. In the meantime organizing a band and teaching singing. In 1904 he received and accepted a call from Laramie, Wyo., to take charge of the choir and orchestra work in the musical department of the University of Wyoming. Professor Graepp came to Fresno, Cal., March 8, 1906, where he is a very successful teacher of the piano, violin, and languages, standing at the head of his profession. He was also the founder of the Philharmonic Conservatory and the Italian Band of Fresno, is organist of the Emanuel Lutheran Church, and has had charge of the repair work and tuning of the pipe organ in St. John's Catholic Church, at Fresno. He is an expert in the construction of pipe organs and has repaired and rebuilt many.

Professor Graepp was twice married, his first wife being, in maidenhood, Miss Leonora Snyder, who is now deceased. His second wife, who is still living, was Mrs. Anna R. Coleman of Wisconsin, a widow with three children by her former husband, Charles Coleman, namely: Edna, Clarence, and Arthur. By his last union Mr. Graepp became the father of two children: Clara, who died at the age of three years, and Albert Frederick, a sophomore at California Concordia College, at Oakland.

THOMAS L. BERG.—On the island of Fedje, off the north coast of Norway, near the city of Bergen, Mr. Berg was born November 2, 1870. His father, was Lars Sjursen, and his mother Breta Thompson. They owned a small place which they farmed, doing all the work by hand on account of the limited areas. Fishing at this place is excellent, and the father, in common with the majority of the island inhabitants, depended mainly upon the products of their fisheries. This country would be a bleak Arctic waste were it not for the thermality of the great Gulf Stream, which not only tempers the climate of northern Norway, but carries with it elements of nutrition that sustain all kinds of aquatic life. It was in such a world and under such conditions that Mr. Berg was born, and he inherited the qualities of physical and mental strength from the sturdy and honorable ancient Norse race.

Mr. Berg was educated in the public schools of his native land; as he grew up he helped his father fish and farm. Nicolina Koppen, his wife, was born upon the same island, where they were schoolmates. They were brought up in the Lutheran Church, and were both confirmed the same day. The wife's parents were the largest land owners on the island, her father likewise following the occupation of fishing and farming.

When Mr. Berg reached his seventeenth year, he took to sailing before the mast, and for two years he sailed along the coast and in the North and Baltic seas. On one of his voyages to England he was taken severely ill and for weeks his life was despaired of while he was being nursed in the hospital at Cardiff. Upon his recovery he returned home and quit the sea. He resolved to try the United States, and at the age of twenty-two he came to America, reached Chicago April 30, 1893, and continued to his destination—Council Bluffs, Iowa. Here he found a condition of great industrial unrest and unemployment. One of the first sights that he saw was Coxey's Army in its march across the continent. No work could be had at more than \$1.10 per day, and only half time at that. After working about two years in



Victor Frauen

western Iowa, Mr. Berg came to San Francisco, arriving there June 15, 1895, he went down to the Leland Stanford Stock Farm at Palo Alto, and stayed about a month, then came to Fresno. Labor conditions were bad here, but Mr. Berg took work on a farm near Fresno at five dollars per month. He liked Fresno County from his first visit and he resolved to become a rancher, and when he could, in 1897, he bought the twenty-acre place that is now his home and began to cultivate and improve it. He was a bachelor here for three years; then in 1900 he went back to Norway, and on July 2, 1900, was married, and on July 4 started on their honeymoon for the land of his adoption and to the home he had prepared in Fresno County.

Mr. Berg is also the owner of three different ranches aggregating ninety acres in the neighborhood of Oleander—a splendid result of twenty-five years' work. His wife has been a good helpmate, and their holdings are the result of their own unaided efforts. In 1901 he bought a place of ten acres on South Maple Avenue, and after bringing it into bearing sold to good advantage in 1907; in 1908 he bought a place of twenty acres on Maple Avenue, near Oleander; in 1911 he bought ten acres on Lincoln Avenue, three-quarters of a mile from his home place and in 1915 he bought forty acres on Orange Avenue three-quarters of a mile southwest from his home place. He is raising raisin grapes and peaches. In 1908 Mr. Berg built a fine home at a cost of \$5,000, and here himself and family are noted for their hospitality. There are eight children in the family: Lawrence, is a freshman in the Fresno high school; Thomas; Johanna; Bertha; Marie; Bjerney; Herald; Norma; all going to school. The family are members of the Danish Lutheran Church, and in politics are Republican though enthusiastic supporters of the present administration.

VICTOR FRANZEN.—To the man who makes a success of life, entirely unaided and with many obstacles to overcome in the struggle, much credit is due, and where he has helped in the development of a district, while building up his own fortunes, he can rest content in the knowledge that he has done his share in the interest of the commonwealth and that of his own family. Such a man is Victor Franzen, who came to Fresno County a poor young man, of foreign birth and language, with no other resources than a healthy body and the will to succeed. He is the son of Frans and Gustava Franzen, and was born in Sweden, March 10, 1869, the youngest in a family of six children. He received his early education in his native land, and when he reached his twentieth year, in 1889, he immigrated to the United States and first located in Iowa, remaining there three years, working as a farm hand.

In 1892, Mr. Franzen came to California and worked for wages five years, and then, deciding to settle here permanently, in 1897 he purchased forty acres of raw land in the Wahtoke district, Fresno County, and proceeded to cultivate it. He was obliged to work out in order to earn the money with which to buy food for himself and family, as well as to make improvements on his ranch, and in this way he succeeded in subduing the soil and compelling it to yield him returns for his labors. As time passed, his efforts were crowned with success, and he later purchased an additional twenty acres, and now owns one of the finest ranches in the Wahtoke district, and the handsomest dwelling house in his section of the county. His residence, which was completed in 1917, contains six rooms on the ground floor, and a room on the upper floor, and cost about \$4,000. While the exterior is beautiful, the interior is surpassingly so. His ranch is set to white Adriatic and Calimyrna figs, twenty acres, and a vineyard of eighteen acres of muscats, the latter yielding him thirty tons.

The marriage of Mr. Franzen, which occurred in 1897, united him with Miss Frances Mayes, and five children were born to them, four of whom are living, as follows: Marion, who served about six months in the United States

Marines; Annie, deceased; Carl; Stella; and Cleta. Mrs. Franzen departed this life in 1915.

While kept well occupied with his agricultural duties, Mr. Franzen has never been too much so to take an interest in the welfare of his home county, and has been found ready to help in all projects for the advancement of his community. He has served as a trustee of Wahtoke School District for twenty years. Fraternally he belongs to the Court of Honor. In politics he is a Democrat. He is a member of the Fig and the Raisin Associations.

HUGH JAMES CARLING, JR.—Born in Dayton, Lyon County, Nev., September 7, 1886, Hugh James Carling, Jr., is a son of Hugh James Carling, a native of New Jersey, and of Nancy Jane (Newman) Carling, born in Iowa. The father came to Nevada in 1870, and there engaged in the cattle business. On coming to California, he located in Fresno, in 1892, and has since made this his home.

Hugh James Carling, Jr., came to Fresno with his parents, in 1892, and obtained his education here, attending the grammar and high schools. On completing his schooling, he worked as a reporter on the Fresno Republican, and engaged in other clerical work. In 1910, he entered the county recorder's office as deputy and one year later began reading law, first studying alone, and later he read law with Carl E. Lindsay, of Fresno.

Mr. Carling was admitted to the bar in San Francisco, in October, 1916. After seven years in the county recorder's office, he entered the office of the county clerk, as clerk in department one, of the Superior Court. In February, 1918, Mr. Carling was appointed deputy district attorney, which office he now holds, with credit to both himself and to the county in which he was reared. Fraternally, he is a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F. He is also a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 138, K. of P., of which he is the present Chancellor Commander. Mr. Carling's marriage united him with Elnora E. Elder, a native of Fresno County, and daughter of a pioneer.

JOHN PAGE.—It requires not only a special aptness for the detailed and varied work of the industry, but years of steady application to scientific research and hard, troublesome labor to arrive at the enviable position of John Page, very properly regarded as one of the most experienced viticulturists and wine-makers in all California, and whose exceptional ability has been recognized by the California Wine Association in their appointment of him as superintendent of their Fresno vineyard and winery.

John's father was James Page, a native of Fifeshire, Scotland, where he was a stonemason when he married Jane Hunter, also born in the land of Bobbie Burns. When he left for New Zealand, he was forced to travel nine months in a sailing ship; but once established in his new homeland, he engaged in contracting and building for many years. In this field he became prominent; but having had enough of that enterprise, he bought and improved a farm, to which he eventually retired. There, too, he died, as did his devoted helpmate, the mother of eight children, six of whom are still living.

Born at Dunedin, New Zealand, in 1868, the sixth eldest in the family and the only one destined to come to California, John Page was brought up on a farm and attended the New Zealand grammar schools, finishing his studies at the Otago High School in Dunedin. On graduating, he entered the grocery trade, taking a clerkship in the spice department of a well-known establishment, where he remained for two years. It was not what he was really aiming at, but he put into practice there the rule of his life, to make a success of every work he undertook, and when he left the grocery trade there were good reasons for his remaining in it.

The lure of California began to attract him at that time, however, and in 1888, at about the top of the great boom, he landed at San Francisco. He was not yet satisfied, and shortly afterwards went to Oregon, where he en-

tered the employ of a contractor engaged in building the breakwater at the Columbia River Bar. Oregon did something for John, and John did a lot for Oregon; but the longer he stayed there, the more he concluded that California was the place for him. He returned, therefore, to the Golden State, and came directly to Fresno; for he had sufficiently informed himself to judge of its superior attractions. He was lucky in securing some work on the best of acreage, and with that experience, he set out vineyards and went in for viticulture. He was also foreman for Captain Neville's vineyard, and then foreman of the Margherita Vineyard; and in discharging his duties in both of these places, he made his mark, first as a man with helpful insight into the problems peculiar to California wine-making, and secondly as a tireless worker accomplishing the maximum possible through the most approved methods.

In the spring of 1901 Mr. Page made a trip to the Klondyke, and spent a year and a half in the frozen North. He prospected out from Dawson and followed mining; but not being over-infatuated with the country, he returned to California and Fresno. He entered the employ of the California Wine Association, serving that concern first in the Smith Mountain Winery and then in the Eisen Vineyard; and next he was made superintendent of the Fresno vineyard and winery, distinguished for its manufacture of sweet wines, especially sherry and port.

At San Francisco, on August 24, 1911, Mr. Page was married to Mrs. May (Roland) Cooper, a native of San Jose, where she was born the daughter of Irish parents—Patrick and Mary Fogarty—who early settled in California, and became prominent in Santa Clara Valley. Mr. Fogarty went in for farming and horticulture, and in that undertaking was eminently successful when he was killed in a runaway. His wife, aged seventy-nine years, makes her home with Mrs. Page. The latter was educated at the Notre Dame Academy and the Academy of the Immaculate Heart at Hollister, from which institutions she graduated with honors. Her three children are: James Hunter, Jack Roland and Mary Jane Page. By her former marriage, Mrs. Page had one child, Claire Cooper, who attends the Fresno high school.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Page take a lively interest in national politics, he espousing the platform of the Republican party, and she the Democrats; but in local affairs, they are naturally very much devoted to the best interests of the section in which they live and so always vote for the best man and the best measure, thereby making for the best citizenship.

FRED EUGENE LINDSEY.—An enterprising old-timer in the Scandinavian Colony who has greatly improved a ranch and now owns valuable property is Fred Eugene Lindsey, a resident of Fresno County since the early nineties, who was born at Antigonish, Nova Scotia, on February 27, 1856. His father, Thomas S. Lindsey, was born on the Penobscot River, near Bangor, Me., where he was reared a member of a Massachusetts family. He married Mercy Longfellow, who could trace her lineage two hundred and fifty years back to William Longfellow; and after thus establishing himself domestically, he removed to Nova Scotia, where he entered the stage business. He prospered until the advent of the railroad, and then the competition compelled him to retire and in 1868 he moved to Rockland, Me., where he was prominent as one of the investors and directors of the steamboat lines operating in that section, being general manager of the Rockland, Mt. Desert & Sullivan Steamboat Company. He died in Nova Scotia, at his summer residence. Mrs. Lindsey also died in Nova Scotia, the mother of four children, three girls and one boy, three of whom are still living.

Fred, the only one in California, was educated at Rockland, Me., and after finishing with the public schools, attended Eastman's Business College at Poughkeepsie, N. Y. Thus equipped, he secured the position of purser on the steamer Ulysses, of the Rockland, Mt. Desert & Sullivan Steamboat Com-

pany, an ill-fated vessel that was lost two years later. Next he officiated for a year on the steamer Mt. Desert; but resigning, he returned to Nova Scotia, where he associated himself in the general merchandise business with L. C. Archibald & Co. When that firm dissolved and divided its holdings, Mr. Lindsey took the Amherst, N. S., store, having a partner and doing business under the firm name of J. B. Gass & Company, and he remained there in business until 1892.

In that year he sold out and came to California; and on his arrival in Fresno County, he bought the forty acres he now owns in the Scandinavian Colony, and engaged in viticulture. A few years later he bought another forty acres adjoining; eleven acres of which he set out with Calimyrna figs, and the balance with Zinfandels. His home place is devoted to muscat, feherzagos and Zinfandel grapes; and for years he superintended the work himself, leasing it out to others for the first time in 1917.

Having thus so long been active as a practical and highly successful viticulturist, it is a matter of some pride to Mr. Lindsey that he attended the first meeting of a raisin association held in Armory Hall in 1892; since which time he has always been interested in and an active supporter of every similar movement. He was a member of the original raisin association and is now a member and a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company. He has seen the county grow from a few sections to its present strength and importance as a part of the very prosperous Central California; and all that he has seen he could and did prophecy, for it was evident from the first that Fresno and its environs had an exceptional and promising destiny.

A public-spirited citizen always desirous of doing his full share of civic work, and a Republican who has served on the county central committee, Mr. Lindsey was for several years school trustee in the Scandinavian school district, and most of the time was also clerk of the board. In every way, he has done what he could to raise the standard of social life in the community, and it is safe to say that he enjoys the esteem of his fellow-citizens to a high degree.

During his sojourn at Rockland, Me., Mr. Lindsey was made a Mason in Aurora Lodge, No. 50, F. & A. M., and on the night when Jewel Lodge No. 42, I. O. O. F., was instituted at Antigonish, N. S., he joined that order.

A. C. McVEY.—A member of the managing board of directors of the Anchor Line Auto Stages, Mr. McVey may be found at the depot of this organization, 1031 I Street, Fresno, at any time during business hours. This organization is duly incorporated, and was formed for the convenience of the public in order to have one office where all the stages might arrive in Fresno and whence they might depart for all important points in any direction from that city. It cooperates with the Western Auto Stage Company, at Bakersfield. The Inter-Urban Auto Stage Association was incorporated December 28, 1915, the officers being: President, J. C. Walling, of Madera; vice-president, C. C. Allen, Sanger; secretary, F. Roberson, Fresno; treasurer, Union National Bank of Fresno. The board of directors are: A. C. McVey, Fresno; J. C. Walling; C. C. Allen; F. Roberson; W. R. Miles, Fresno. Mr. McVey ran his busses for three years independently before joining the association, and even now all the members own and operate their own stages.

Mr. McVey comes from a prominent family. His father, W. H. McVey, a farmer near Sedalia, was born in Georgetown, Mo., in 1840. He married Miss Katherine Elliott at Sedalia. Her people came from Kentucky about the year 1840. She was born in Missouri in 1843. His grandfather, Absalom McVey, was born in Maryland, and went to Missouri about 1833, being one of the pioneers of the country west of the Missouri River. At one time he was the owner of 1,300 acres of land near Sedalia, upon a part of which the city of Sedalia was built.



Albert Bosworth



Emma B. Bosworth

A. C. McVey was born at Sedalia, June 21, 1882, and grew up on his father's farm. He attended the country school and Sedalia high, from which he graduated in 1901. He farmed for two years thereafter and then entered the employ of the Missouri Pacific as clerk in the office at Sedalia. On May 28, 1906, he came to Brawley, Cal., and after working on a ranch for six months went to Selma, Cal., where he engaged with the Selma Fruit Company for three years under the superintendency of his cousin, T. H. Elliott. The next three years were spent with the Elliott-McVey Company, of Selma, as a partner. This firm was burned out, and Mr. McVey quit the fruit business and bought a ranch of twenty acres, which he still owns. It is a fine fruit farm, and this he now rents out. He lived here for two years, when he went to driving bus for S. E. Roberts, of Selma. In August, 1915, he began business on his own account, running stage from Selma to Kingsburg, later to Fresno and then another from Fresno to Sanger.

Mr. McVey married Miss Chloe Good, of Selma, a graduate of Selma high and of the Normal of San Jose. She was a teacher at Selma, and is the daughter of W. B. and Carrie E. Good. Mr. and Mrs. McVey have two children; Laurell and Claire. The family are members of the Christian Church, at Selma.

ALBERT BOSWORTH.—From early life identified with the oil industry, and at the youthful age of sixteen years employed by the Standard Oil Company, at Bradford, Pa., Albert Bosworth, has gained a broad and varied experience and is one of the best posted oil superintendents in the Coalinga field. A native of the Empire State, Albert Bosworth was born at Limestone, Cattaraugus County, N. Y., a son of Lon and Sarah (Adams) Bosworth. The father was a farmer and sawmill man and passed his last days in New York State; the mother was a native of Olean, N. Y., and is also deceased.

Albert Bosworth was brought up at Limestone, and attended the public school of his district. At the early age of sixteen he was employed by the Standard Oil Company at Bradford, Pa., in the pipe-line department. Later he was engaged in lumbering for L. D. Whitmore, in Wayne and Warren Counties, Pa. When he quit lumbering it was to take up work in the oil fields, entering the employ of Mr. Shear of Sheffield, Pa., when he became a driller and by loyal and efficient service he was promoted to the position of superintendent, having three different properties under his charge, with forty-three producing wells. As proof of Mr. Bosworth's capability, dependability and satisfactory service, it is with pride that he points to the fact that he held this position for nearly fifteen years, or until 1906, when he resigned and took a trip to California, visiting the Coalinga oil field, but remaining only two weeks, when he returned to Warren, Pa. In 1908, Mr. Bosworth made his second trip to California, coming again to Coalinga, where he secured a position with George D. Roberts of the Stockholders 28 Company, where he filled the responsible position of superintendent for seven years. When Mr. Roberts sold his stock in the Stockholders 28 Company he became interested in the United Development Company, which is now the Oil Exploration Company, and Mr. Bosworth came with Mr. Roberts to the new concern, where he was placed in charge as general superintendent of the property, which now has seven producing wells on Sections 17 and 19-15-20.

In San Francisco, Albert Bosworth was united in marriage with Emma Ingram, a native of Mason City, Iowa, but reared and educated in the Golden State. Mr. Bosworth has been an active member of the War Fund Association and active in its work, and with his wife is also a life member of the Red Cross.

Mr. Bosworth is a man of executive ability, a very enterprising and progressive oil-man, with an enviable reputation as an oil superintendent. Mr. and Mrs. Bosworth are justly popular and have many friends in Fresno County.

HUGO S. STANGE.—Though not a native son, Hugo S. Stange has spent most of his life in Fresno County since reaching the age of maturity, and has been identified with the business life of the community since that time. Born in Berlin, Germany, September 26, 1880, he is a son of Godfrey and Ann (Teal) Stange, both natives of Germany, the father now passed to his reward. In 1883 the family emigrated to America and located in Neillsville, Clark County, Wis., and Hugo S. was educated in the public schools of Neillsville. He later worked in a furniture factory there. In 1900 he came with his mother to Fresno, his father and brother, Paul T., having arrived the year previous. Here he secured work in the logging camp at Millwood, and later worked on the construction of the Northern Pacific Railway between Ukiah and Willits, Mendocino County. Returning to Fresno Mr. Stange learned the plumber's trade, with the firm of Donahue & Emmons. In 1908 he went to Oakland and worked at his trade there with Groff & Leonard, and also with E. O. Dryer of that city. On his return to Fresno, in 1909, Mr. Stange again entered the employ of Donahue & Emmons, remaining with them until 1911, when he was employed by Nudt Johnson and Kutner-Goldstein, for a few months.

At this period Mr. Stange formed a partnership with George T. Ellithorpe, and engaged in the plumbing business under the firm name of Ellithorpe and Stange, with shops at the corner of N and Fresno Streets. They installed plumbing in fine residence buildings, principally. In September, 1914, this partnership was dissolved, and Mr. Stange has since that time been in business for himself. Among other work he installed the plumbing in the Hotel White, a three-story brick building on I Street; two residences for H. B. Ashton; a number of fine homes in North Fresno; the Peach Growers Packing Plant, Reedley; the Brewer Hotel, Selma; Arwandon Hotel and Yarrington Hotel, Mendota; a fine residence for A. A. Channell on White's Bridge Road. He was foreman in charge of the plumbing on the first addition to the high school building, also in the pumping plant of the Associated Oil Company at Coalinga.

The marriage of Mr. Stange united him with Mrs. Alice Elkins. Mrs. Stange has two children by a former marriage, Clara, and Phylis. Fraternally Mr. Stange is a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 343, I. O. O. F., and of the Hermann Sons.

NIELS PETERSEN.—The life of Niels Petersen, which this narrative sketches, began on October 30, 1869, in Hadeslev, Schleswig. His early childhood was spent on a farm, and when but a boy of fifteen years he was apprenticed for four years to a blacksmith, during which time he received no salary for his hard labor, but board only, as is the custom in that section of the world. Having an aversion to the military oppression of that country and a desire to seek a home under a flag of freedom, Mr. Petersen emigrated to the United States in June, 1888, and located at Woodbridge, N. J., where his brother and sisters were living. While residing there, working at his trade, he studied the English language diligently evenings, and soon learned to speak and read English, continuing thus employed until 1894, when he journeyed farther westward, arriving at Fresno, Cal., in June of that year.

After locating at Fresno, Mr. Petersen secured employment at his trade with H. Ahrensberg; but after only two weeks he became sick and was obliged to leave his work, and went to the mountains for a month's rest. Upon returning to Fresno he resumed work as a blacksmith, being employed by George Larsen for two years. Later, he formed a partnership with Peter A. Borg and they opened a shop at the corner of I and Inyo Streets, continuing the business there for about three years, when he purchased his partner's interest. Mr. Petersen conducted the business in the same location until 1912, when he entered in partnership with H. Ahrensberg. On January 13, 1917, Mr. Ahrensberg passed away and Niels Petersen bought his in-

terest and became the sole owner of the establishment which is located at 702 I Street. In addition to conducting a general repair shop, Mr. Petersen does wagon-making, horseshoeing and various kinds of machine work. He is very enterprising and industrious, and by hard work and satisfactory service has built up a large and paying business.

Mr. Petersen owns an alfalfa ranch of fifteen acres, located on Pierce near White's Bridge road, three and a half miles west of Fresno. On this ranch he now resides with his family, where he is engaged in dairying.

In 1898, at Fresno, Mr. Niels Petersen was united in marriage with Andrea Schmidt, also a native of Hadeslev, and of this happy union six children were born, all of whom are natives of Fresno County: Roy, associated with his father in business; Harry, Walter, Edna and Erna (twins), and May. Religiously, the family are Lutherans, and fraternally Mr. Petersen is an honored member of both Dania and the Danish Brotherhood. He is a man of sterling integrity and worth, and is held in high esteem by his many friends and business associates.

J. C. HINTON.—Every branch of business has its representatives in the prosperous and progressive city of Fresno. J. C. Hinton, manager of the Fresno Plumbing Supply Company, is one of Fresno's energetic business men. He is the son of J. S. and Margaret (Hobbs) Hinton, and was born in Missouri, January 15, 1888.

Educated in the public schools of his native state, his good judgment appreciated the benefits of a high school education, of which he availed himself. After leaving school his life was spent on the farm until he reached his majority, when he came to Fresno, following the occupation of farming for a time, afterwards being in the employ of the Santa Fe Railroad.

His next business venture was with Mr. Cox in the plumbing business. He made rapid strides in his chosen occupation, taking his present responsible position in August, 1914.

On August 27, 1913, Mr. Hinton married Miss Catherine McAlpine, who has borne him two children: Catherine Margaret and Virginia R.

Mr. Hinton is a member of the Christian Church; has been identified with politics; and fraternally is an Odd Fellow and a member of Las Palmas Lodge, No. 366, F. & A. M. He is also associated with the Chamber of Commerce, the Merchant's Association and the Traffic Association.

CAPT. HERBERT A. SESSIONS.—A worthy descendant of his forebears of early Colonial days, Herbert A. Sessions, Fresno County's very competent probation officer, was born in Berkshire County, Mass., July 17, 1866. He was the son of Samuel Alanson and Olive (Hibbard) Sessions, who, after leaving the old Bay State, lived in the states of Ohio and Michigan. Both are now deceased. On the Sessions' side of the house his ancestry in America dates back to 1633, the year that Connecticut Colony was founded and three years before Roger Williams founded Providence. On the maternal (Hibbard) side his ancestors came to America in 1631, eleven years after the Puritans landed on Plymouth Rock. His forebears on both paternal and maternal sides were prominent in the Revolutionary War, in which they served with distinction.

Herbert A. Sessions received the best education the common schools and high schools of Michigan afforded, and afterward taught school for six years in that state. His inclinations then turned toward newspaper work, in which he successfully engaged in Michigan and Iowa. During the Spanish War he served as a volunteer in Company F, Fifty-first Iowa Volunteer Infantry, for one and one-half years, part of this time in the Philippines; at the end of that time he returned to the United States and was honorably discharged from military duty at the Presidio. In 1904 he came to Fresno, and in July of that year he was united in marriage with Miss Gertrude Steele. Their union has been blessed with the birth of four children, three boys and

one girl. He has three children by a former marriage, two girls and one boy.

Mr. Sessions was instrumental in the organization of the Juvenile Court in 1904, serving as its officer without pay until 1911, and was then appointed on a salary for four years. For three years, while out of probation work, he took care of his own farming interests, improving over a section of tree and alfalfa land, and at the same time was manager of the Riverside Vineyard Company, after which he was appointed to his present position. The Parental Home was built under his supervision, and after its completion he was given charge of it. The new detention house was built according to his plans and designs, and he was a member of the Citizen's Relief Committee which built shelter for the unemployed, as well as a member of the Municipal Employment Bureau. For two years he was a director of the Fresno County Fair Association, and inaugurated the Better Babies Contest exhibits, for children. He also inaugurated the stock-judging contest for boys in connection with said Fresno County Fair. Mr. Sessions is now serving in his ninth year as probation officer. In the performance of his official duties he has three able assistants: Oliver M. Akers, Ella M. Towle and Mrs. O. S. Hecox, all of the city of Fresno. Some 500 cases are on record each year. Of this number about 100 deal with adults and 400 with juveniles. As a probation officer Mr. Sessions is guided by the voice of Him who said: "Go, and sin no more." That his lofty idealism is bearing good fruit is attested by the fact that ninety-five percent. of those paroled "make good."

During the recent war Mr. Sessions organized the Fifty-eighth Company of California Military Reserves, sometimes known as the Home Guards, and is Senior Captain of the Fresno Battalion, consisting of three companies. During the war he was also appointed and served as an associate member of the Military Training Camps Association of the United States, the field of his activities being the San Joaquin Valley. This board selected many candidates for the Officers' Training School.

In his religious views Mr. Sessions is an Episcopalian, in politics a Republican. He is a Mason, and has passed the third degree in that order. He is also a member of the Woodmen of the World, and a charter member of the Commercial Club.

JAMES P. HARTIGAN.—Through his long association with the various phases of the raisin industry, James P. Hartigan has gained an enviable reputation as an expert judge of the products of the vine and is known as the "quality man" in the extensive packing houses of the California Associated Raisin Company. James P. Hartigan passes judgment on the quality and grade of the raisins packed by this large corporation, and is careful that nothing is shipped that will not maintain the established high reputation of the brands packed by the California Associated Raisin Company. He is the superintendent of warehouses for the company and is regarded as one of the best posted men on the raisin industry in the San Joaquin Valley.

James P. Hartigan was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., on April 25, 1864, a son of John and Ann (Trainor) Hartigan, who were both natives of the Emerald Isle. In 1869, John Hartigan brought his family to California by the Isthmus of Panama, and after his arrival located in Davis, Yolo County, where he followed farming and in 1878 passed away. James P. Hartigan received his education in the schools at Davis, Cal., and it was in the same town that he gained his first experience in the raisin industry, while he was in the employ of G. G. Briggs, at Davis. In 1885, he located at Oleander, Fresno County, where he was employed in the packing house of the Curtis Fruit Company for three years. Afterwards he engaged in contracting for the planting of vineyards and orchards in the San Joaquin Valley and in which business he continued up to 1898. Many of the famous vineyards and orchards in Fresno County were planted under the instruction of Mr. Hartigan. In the year 1900, he entered the employ of the J. B. Inderrieden & Company, fruit



Jas. P. Hartigan

packers, at Fresno and continued with this company until 1912, when the California Associated Raisin Company was formed and he was offered by the corporation the important post of superintendent of their packing plants. By his long and varied experience in the fruit packing business, Mr. Hartigan is especially fitted to fill this important position, and is performing the many responsible duties that devolve upon him in a very efficient manner and to the satisfaction of the managing stockholders of this large corporation.

In the Poppy Colony, Mr. Hartigan is the owner of a five-acre vineyard of Thompson seedless grapes, which he planted and developed. Near Oleander he also planted a vineyard of muscat grapes, containing ten acres, which after developing he sold. On Blackstone Avenue, in Fresno, he has fifteen acres, ten of which are planted to apricots and the remaining five to Thompson's seedless grapes. Mr. Hartigan has bought, developed and sold other orchards in the county. He served as constable of Oleander and was a deputy sheriff of Fresno County, under W. S. McSwain until his death, and then under Horace Thorwaldsen until the close of his term. He has contributed to the development of the residence section of Fresno by building three houses on Washington Avenue.

Mr. James P. Hartigan was united in marriage on May 1, 1887, with Margaret S. Douglass, a native of Canada, who came when a small child to California, with her parents. Her father, Frank Douglass, was one of the early settlers of Fresno County and purchased land in the Washington Colony. At one time he was the master mechanic of the Pacific Woolen Mills at San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hartigan became the parents of one son: Lester F., who was born in Oleander, Fresno County, and received his education in the public school of Fresno, supplementing his early education with a special course in electrical engineering, at Heald's Business College, San Francisco. He is now in the employ of the California Associated Raisin Company, having charge of the installation and the repair work of all their various plants.

Fraternally J. P. Hartigan is a member of the Odd Fellows, Red Men and the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Hartigan's first wife died in 1916. The second marriage of Mr. Hartigan was solemnized on August 10, 1917, when he was united with Miss Margine Sorensen, a native of Skive, Denmark, where she was reared and educated and in 1908 came to the United States.

ADOLPH BUTTNER.—Among the public-spirited citizens who have aided in the building-up of Fresno County and is counted as a representative and progressive business man we find Adolph Buttner, general manager of the California-Fresno Oil Company. He was born on July 21, 1875, the son of Christoph and Wilhelmina Buttner, who located in San Francisco in 1884 and in that city passed the remainder of their days. When they settled in the metropolis, Adolph was but nine years of age and his schooling was obtained in the public schools there. When he was twenty-one years of age he began business for himself by establishing a meat business in San Francisco, this he continued successfully until 1910, when he sold out and became interested in the oil refining industry in Fresno County.

The California-Fresno Oil Company is a corporation, organized in 1901, under the laws of California. The officers of the company at that time were A. C. Ruschhaupt, president; K. W. Ruschhaupt, treasurer, and Adolph Buttner, secretary and general manager; upon the death of the treasurer, December 22, 1917, Mr. Buttner was made treasurer, along with his other offices in the company. The company is a strictly refining concern and was started in 1901, by Hart Brothers and a Mr. Spinks, on a small scale on land located about one mile south of Fresno on the main highway that is now known as the State Highway. In 1902 the concern was taken over by the present company and under the efficient management of Mr. Buttner the output has

been trebled. The company uses about 100,000 barrels of crude oil annually, which is shipped in tank cars from the Coalinga fields. The oil is refined and sold under the brands of California-Fresno Gasoline; Bright Light Kerosene; No. 1 Engine, White Top, and Stove distillates; and other fuel and lubricating oils, and by discriminating buyers and users these products are considered of a superior quality. The oils are delivered by motor trucks to all parts of Fresno County in a radius of forty miles of Fresno city. There are fifteen men employed the year round, working full time six days of the week. A filling station is also maintained at the plant, which is situated on five acres of ground, and is the only refinery in the county outside of the Coalinga fields. There is a complete machine shop and garage maintained also.

The marriage of Adolph Buttner, which occurred in San Francisco, in 1906, united him with Miss Clara Ruschhaupt, a native daughter, born in Los Angeles into the family of A. C. Ruschhaupt and his estimable wife. Of this happy union there has been born a daughter, Clarice W., a student in the Fresno State Normal School. The family home, erected by Mr. Buttner, is located at 1130 College Avenue. Mr. Buttner is a Scottish Rite Mason, and holds membership in Las Palmas Lodge No. 366, F. & A. M. in Fresno; and both he and his wife belong to Fresno Chapter No. 295, O. E. S. In his political affiliations he is a Republican on national issues but in local matters supports the men he considers best qualified for the office rather than adhering to party lines. In all matters pertaining to the public welfare he has always given his cooperation and support. The position he holds in business and social circles has been of his own making and among those who know him best he is considered a man of unquestioned integrity.

GEORGE SCHWINN.—A public-spirited and progressive pioneer, who was one of the earliest settlers at Huron, Fresno County, the first man successfully to grow grapes, fruit and beans in Auberry Valley, and the father of the oil industry in Coalinga, is George Schwinn. He was born in Frankfort-on-the-Main, on December 20, 1860, and after finishing his education, worked in a general merchandise store for three years for his board. There he learned the business thoroughly, and also sound business methods; so that when he was ready to set forth into the world, he was well prepared to cope with the world's problems.

In 1880 he came to the United States and to California, and for a while worked on a ranch near Merced. Two years later he went to Hanford, Kings County, and for about two years worked in the general merchandise store of Silas Simon and Bros., commencing at twenty-five dollars a month and his board. Notwithstanding this modest wage, he had saved seven hundred dollars when, in 1886, just before the great boom in California real estate, he decided to remove to Huron, which was the end of the branch line of the Southern Pacific Railroad to the western side of Fresno County. The year of 1886 proved to be one of the best seasons and they had the most abundant feed known to the stockmen of the West Side. The grass had grown so tall the sheepmen had to make a trail to drive their sheep through to the shipping place. There he preempted a claim of 160 acres of government land, and so early had he arrived on the scene, that he built the first store there. He was also the first postmaster at Huron, and for twenty-two years held that responsible office under the United States government—the longest term served by any man in the valley. He had all the trade of the stockmen for fifty miles around, there being no other store in the entire district. At Huron, also, Mr. Schwinn planted the first vineyard of twenty acres, and he soon came to have one of the show-places of the section. In 1888 he promoted the first oil company in the Coalinga district, known as the Fresno Oil Company. He brought in a surveyor, had the land laid out in twenty-acre tracts, and surveyed and built roads into what is now Oilfields. All this he did with the

cooperation of only seven other men. Later the oil property was exploited by Canfield and Chanslor and became Oil City, and now Oilfields, the center of the East Coalinga oil fields. After that, Mr. Schwinn homesteaded 160 acres in the East Coalinga field adjoining the Shell Company on the east, which is valuable oil land. While at Huron he located several people on homesteads that afterwards proved to be oil land and they became very wealthy, among them Herman Brix, who was clerking for him while he was improving his homestead. Mr. Brix also obtained options on other land from customers of the store, and it made him independently wealthy.

In 1907 Mr. Schwinn sold his ranch and store at Huron, and bought eighty acres of vineyard and orchard on McKinley Avenue, west of Fresno, a place scientifically and beautifully improved. There were a well-set vineyard, fields of alfalfa, and a fruitful orchard, with new and beautiful buildings. After selling this he bought 1,600 acres in Auberry Valley. He cleared it of timber and brush, fenced and cross fenced it, has planted apricots, plums, prunes, peaches and a vineyard. The balance is devoted to raising grain, hay and stock. There are two new bungalows with farm buildings and pumping plant, and it is now the best-improved ranch in the foot-hills of Fresno. On the ranch are a station and a public school. Mr. Schwinn was the first man to develop the above-named fruits in Auberry Valley. When he proposed to do so, his neighbors said he couldn't succeed; but he followed out his own ideas, and in the end accomplished what others had declared impossible.

Fraternally, Mr. Schwinn is an Odd Fellow, and belongs to the Fresno Lodge. He is also a member of the Commercial Club of Fresno, and co-operates in every way in extending commercial interests. He belongs to the German Lutheran Church and has many fond recollections of the Fatherland; but he is a most loyal American, is devoted to his adopted country, and thoroughly sympathizes with the United States and its part in the present war, giving definite and practical support to the administration through thick and thin.

It is to such men as George Schwinn that Fresno County owes much of its present greatness; for without the optimism and energy they displayed, its lands and mineral resources would not have been so early exploited and the development of the county would not now be so far advanced. He is well satisfied with the result, and is very well content that he was so fortunate as to cast in his lot in Fresno County.

COWAN A. SAMPLE.—An unusually foreseeing and prosperous real estate and insurance agent, whose experience and judgment have been as valuable to his clients as to himself, is Cowan A. Sample, a native of Holmes County, Miss., where he was born on December 17, 1869, the son of A. D. and Anna Maria Sample. As early as 1874 his father came out to California, but returned to Mississippi and remained there until 1907, when he brought his family to the Coast. He is now living retired.

Cowan Sample's elementary education was obtained in the Mississippi schools, and was completed at the Normal School at Buena Vista, Chickasaw County, in that state. For a while he worked in a general merchandise store in Mississippi, but suffering from broken health at the end of three years, he determined to come West. In April, 1890, he located at Fresno, and for ten years was with an uncle, D. C. Sample, in the sheep business. Then he formed a partnership with G. R. Shipp, but sold out after two years. For a year and a half he was manager of the California Ranch, and then he came to Fresno as the manager of the packing plant of the Fresno Meat Company.

Severing his connection with the Fresno Meat Company, Mr. Sample went on the road as cattle and sheep buyer for O. M. Henry, and in that line of activity he continued until the latter's death. Then he bought for himself for a year, until the earthquake and fire in 1906 devastated San Francisco. After that he joined S. C. Sample in the City Livery Stables, but in

nineteen months sold his interest to his brother. Next he engaged in the mining business, and for five years was president and general manager of the Klamath River Mining Company.

Once more disposing of his interests, Mr. Sample embarked in real estate, putting on the market the Howard Tract of five acres, which he very successfully sold out. Since then he has dealt in many ranches, vineyards and orchards, and in August, 1917, he formed a partnership with J. D. Morgan under the name of Sample & Morgan, and they do a general real estate business.

July 22, 1903, witnessed the marriage of Mr. Sample to Miss Maud Brown. They are the parents of four charming daughters: Anna, Grace, Virginia and Catherine. The Samples are Episcopalians. Mr. Sample is a favorite in the fraternal life of the Elks.

ROBERT R. PRATHER.—California has every reason to be proud of her native sons, and Fresno County shares in that pride, numbering among her citizens men of native birth who have made their influence felt in both the business and professional life of the state. As vice-president and sales-manager of the Lauritzen Implement Company, Robert R. Prather is one of the rising young business men of Fresno. Born in Los Angeles, January 1, 1886, he is a son of Joseph L. and Mary (Hedrick) Prather, the former a native of North Carolina and the latter of South Carolina. When Robert was six weeks old the family settled on a ranch thirteen miles south of Fresno, on Elm Avenue, and he received his education in the country schools of that district, and later in the Fresno grammar and high school.

In the fall of 1906 Mr. Prather entered the employ of the Lauritzen Implement Company, as bookkeeper, and gradually worked his way up to secretary and treasurer of that concern, and is now vice-president and salesmanager, a demonstration of ability and application which is worthy of mention, as is all honest striving toward success in life, and fortunate indeed is the man who succeeds as early in life as has Robert R. Prather.

The marriage of Mr. Prather united him with Miss Josephine Sequeira, a daughter of Antonio G. Sequeira, a pioneer of the county. Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Prather, as follows: Robert; George; Bernadine; and Lester. Fraternally Mr. Prather is a member of the Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M. A resident of the county practically since his birth, he has always taken a keen interest in its development, and has aided in all movements tending toward advancing its resources.

ANDREW JUDSON STURTEVANT, JR.—One of the rising and successful young business men of the San Joaquin Valley is Andrew Judson Sturtevant, Jr., whose enterprising and executive ability have led to success in every branch of business that he has undertaken. Mr. Sturtevant is a native son of California, born at Vallejo, September 15, 1886. He was a student at the Oakland High School and also attended the University of California at Berkeley, graduating with the class of 1911 from the agricultural department of that institution with the degree of B. S.

Coming to Fresno County, Mr. Sturtevant rented a 200-acre alfalfa and stock ranch near Sanger for two years, and then took up research work for the California Development Board, making an agricultural survey of the crop conditions of Fresno County in detail, covering all the varieties of products. When the peach growers resolved to form their own marketing organization, he became active in securing members and funds with which to finance the proposed association. Later, when success was assured, he went East for the purpose of developing a sales organization, after which he was appointed general sales-manager for the California Peach Growers, Inc. He is himself one of the large peach growers of the San Joaquin Valley. He rents two peach orchards in Stanislaus County, of twenty-four and forty acres



Bart Harvey

respectively, and is the owner of a ninety-four-acre peach orchard near Modesto and a 200-acre peach orchard eighteen miles from Fresno, at Borden.

The marriage of Mr. Sturtevant united him with Miss Roda M. Mitchell, a native of North Dakota, who was brought up at Oakland. Two children are the result of their union, Andrew J., Jr., and Robert Mitchell. Mr. Sturtevant is a member of the Commercial Club of Fresno, and during the Liberty Loan campaign in that city was an active worker for the cause, being one of the four-minute men who made speeches in the theaters and other public places.

BART HARVEY.—One of the progressive business men in Fresno, and a merchant widely known for his straightforward ways and pleasing personality, is Bart Harvey, the proprietor of the leading clothing and gents' furnishing store in Fresno, centrally located at the corner of J and Tulare Streets. He was born at Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England, on April 19, 1874, the seat of many of the most interesting events in English history, and a town famous for its situation on the summit and declivities of three lofty eminences, rising from the north bank of the Tyne, about ten miles from its mouth. Amid the ancient piles of donjon-keeps and church spires, there are ranges, along the banks of the river, one above another, of dim and dingy buildings, that have stood for centuries. Bart's father was Rodger Harvey, a mining man, who married Miss Mary McGee and then came to the United States in 1874 and located at Barclay, Pa., where he became superintendent of coal mines. They had seven boys and three girls, and now live retired in comfort at Pittsburg.

Bart, the second oldest, was educated in the public schools and later received a thorough training in one of the best business colleges of Rochester. For several years, he worked as a salesman in a mercantile establishment, and then, in 1889, he came West, locating first at Trinidad, Colo. In 1891, he went to Salt Lake City, Utah, and there engaged as a traveling salesman, after which he was made manager of a company store for three years. He next spent four years in Oregon. In 1901, Mr. Harvey dropped anchor in Fresno and at once became manager of the clothing department of Messrs. Radin & Kamp, and within the short period of four years thereafter he established himself in business, opening on J Street. In March, 1908, he founded his present enterprise, and there by methods sure to meet the approval of patrons, he has built up such a good business that he employs regularly no less than fourteen persons.

A live member of the Chamber of Commerce, in which he was a director for many years, and a member of the Merchants' Association, the Traffic Association and the Commercial Club, of which he was the first secretary, Mr. Harvey has been closely identified with the upbuilding of Fresno, giving freely of his time and personal means. With Dave Newman, Ralph Woodard and John W. Short, Mr. Harvey began the Raisin Day movement for advertising, asking Americans all over the United States to use more raisins as a part of their daily food, and naming a Raisin Day. They obtained the cooperation of all Fresnoans, and their work resulted in much good, and there is now, besides the local raisin celebration, the successful organization known as the California Associated Raisin Company. Mr. Harvey has been active in every movement started in Fresno for the advancement of the city and county.

In 1895, at San Francisco, Mr. Harvey was married to Miss Belle Isbell, a native of California and a member of an old Southern family. She is the daughter of Ewing and Sarah (Price) Isbell, born respectively in Missouri and Kentucky. Her father comes of an old Virginian family, a near relative of Robert E. Lee. However he did not countenance slavery, so he freed his slaves and migrated across the plains in an ox team train. He engaged in mining in Calaveras County and was the discoverer of the Isbell mine near

Murphy's Camp. Later he removed to near Flagstaff, Ariz., where he became a large cattle-man until his death. Mrs. Sarah Price Isbell is a niece of General Sterling Price, the Virginian soldier who died at St. Louis in the late sixties. He raised the Second Missouri Cavalry for the Mexican War, becoming its colonel, and marched his men over a thousand miles, under General Stephen W. Kearney, to Santa Fe, when they were reduced to subsisting on the wild country, the tramp continuing fifty days. When Kearney went to California, Colonel Price was left in charge of New Mexico; and having put down an insurrection, he was made a brigadier general of volunteers, and afterward became military governor of Chihuahua. Still later, he was governor of Missouri, and then he underwent the hard campaigns of the Civil War as a Confederate officer.

A daughter, Edith Isbell Harvey, has attained distinction as a graduate of Stanford University, where she finished her course with honors, and she is a talented vocalist. She has a pleasing, beautiful mezzo-soprano voice, and has favored the music-lovers of Fresno on various occasions. At present she is studying music under Percy Rector Stevens.

J. B. DALY.—A general broker who believes in the old adage, "Nothing dare, nothing share," and who is always ready to venture in the realty field when the prospects of the game are at all good, is J. B. Daly, the well-known real estate agent. He is a native son, born in Mariposa County in 1870. His father, Judge R. H. Daly, brought his family to Fresno in 1874. There the lad was educated in the public schools. After attaining his majority he served six years as deputy county recorder. For eight years he was in the grocery business, and for some years he traveled widely as a salesman.

In 1909 he entered the real estate field, and from the first showed his marked ability for that work, which requires so much foresight and common sense, as well as a deep knowledge of human nature. He placed on the market the McCoon Colony of 400 acres, organized the Glen Park Stock Farm sale, and has also negotiated other important deals.

Mr. Daly is a member of the Fresno Realty Exchange, and has served as a director in the same. He also participates in a wide-awake manner in the work of the Chamber of Commerce, and takes a just pride in the development of Fresno County and the State of California, lending a hand in the furtherance of its material upbuilding, and in supporting the common welfare.

LORENTZ C. DUUS.—Lorentz C. Duus, a prominent member of Fresno's Danish colony, was born in Schleswig-Holstein (then a part of Denmark), July 6, 1857, ten years before these provinces were ceded to Prussia. He was reared and educated in his native land, and learned the trade of a miller. After serving twenty months in the Danish army as a volunteer and working for some time at his trade in the old country, he came to the United States, in May, 1879, and joined his brother, who lived in Marysville, Cal. He worked on a ranch at Yuba City for one year then went to Monterey County and worked for a time in a warehouse at Moss Landing. From thence he went to Oakland, Cal., where he ran a grocery store on Telegraph Avenue for three years. After this he conducted a billiard hall at Eighth and Broadway, Oakland, for two years, and then went to Sutter County and, renting 160 acres of land near Live Oak, successfully engaged in raising grain for one season. In 1887, on his way to Los Angeles, he stopped one week in Fresno, and then continued his journey southward. He conducted a restaurant, for a time, on San Fernando Street near the Southern Pacific Railroad station in Los Angeles; but Fresno had favorably impressed him and in 1889 he journeyed back again and engaged in the plumbing business, with Louis Thye as partner. Their shop was on K Street, between Fresno and Merced Streets. In the fall of 1889 he closed out the business and purchased a forty-acre unimproved ranch. He planted the land to muscat and malaga grape vines and alfalfa, leveled and fenced it, lived on the place five and one-half

years, and then lost it through a defect in the title. Undaunted by fortune's vicissitudes, he next went to San Francisco and for three and a half years was employed by the Southern Pacific Railroad in their freight department. Returning then to Fresno, he opened a cigar store on Mariposa Street, where the Union National Bank is now located. He met with much success in the new venture, and after ten years in that location moved to his present place at 933 J Street. He owned a twenty-acre vineyard on Cherry Avenue and Jensen Streets, which he sold in 1913, and he is the owner of valuable real estate lots and four houses in Fresno. His business experiences prove what industry, coupled with intelligence and frugality, can accomplish when directed in the right channels.

In 1888, Mr. Duus was united in marriage with one of his countrywomen, Clara Christiansen, and they are the parents of three children, all of whom were born in Fresno: Arthur C., later Quartermaster Sergeant, U. S. A., now deceased; Anna, the wife of H. Campbell, of Fresno; and Viola, a professional stenographer in Fresno.

Quartermaster Sergeant Arthur C. Duus died at Douglas, Ariz., November 30, 1918, following an attack of influenza. He was born in the city of Fresno, October 6, 1889, and was educated in the Fresno public schools. He graduated from the Fresno High School with the class of 1907, and after leaving school he entered the service of the Union Savings Bank at Fresno. He later became assistant cashier in the First National Bank of Fresno and held that position when he enlisted in the army at San Francisco in 1917. He first went to the Presidio, but was soon transferred to Jacksonville, Fla., where he attended the quartermaster's school. After graduating from the finance department in April, 1918, he was transferred to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, where he received his commission as sergeant in the quartermaster's corps. Soon thereafter he was again transferred to Douglas, Ariz., and was placed in charge of the finance department, and on the 17th of October, 1918, he was duly commissioned quartermaster sergeant, still serving at Fort Douglas. On November 11, 1918 (the day of the armistice), he was taken ill and was brought to the hospital. The influenza terminated in pneumonia, from which he died. Word of his illness was telegraphed home, and the mother and two sisters started immediately. His two sisters, Mrs. Anna Campbell and Miss Viola Duus, were at his bedside one day before he died. His mother, who stayed for his bedside from Fresno with her two daughters, was taken severely ill en route, and had to stop off at Los Angeles. Military funeral services were held at Camp Douglas; and his remains were escorted to Fresno by his comrades. On December 4, 1918, the funeral was held, and interment was made in Liberty Cemetery at Fresno.

Mr. Duus is a member of the Dania Society of Fresno, of which he is past president. He became a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Oakland in 1883 and is now a member of the Fresno Lodge of that order, and has passed the Encampment.

J. LEE EICHELBERGER.—The manager of the Fresno division of the Sperry Flour Company, J. Lee Eichelberger is well known in Central and Northern California. He was born in Christian County, Ill., November 15, 1876, and received his education in the public school and the Northwestern University at Chicago, graduating from the pharmaceutical department in 1891. For eight years thereafter he followed the drug business in Chicago, after which he went to Macomb, McDonough County, Ill., and engaged in the general merchandise business until 1905, when he sold out to locate in California.

Mr. Eichelberger came direct to Fresno and secured a position as bill clerk in the office of the Sperry Flour Company; after a term of service he was promoted to the position of traveling salesman. In 1910 he was made manager of the Sacramento division of the company and for six years made

Sacramento his headquarters and home and gave of his best efforts to the development of the business of the Sperry Flour Company in his district. In 1916 he was transferred to the Fresno division, where he is now located. Mr. Eichelberger has traveled up and down the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys and has made many friends who hold him in high esteem for his business ability and good management. Interested in the development of the natural resources of California, Mr. Eichelberger has improved a twenty-acre orange grove at Strathmore, Tulare County, a very fine citrus section for navels and valencias.

In 1901 Mr. Eichelberger was united in marriage with Miss Daisy Spickler, a native of Illinois. Their marriage was celebrated at Kewanee, that state. Two children have blessed their marriage, Meredith and Robert. As a diversion from business cares and to bring him more closely in touch with the up-to-date men of affairs of Fresno, Mr. Eichelberger holds membership in the Rotary Club, the Commercial Club and the Sunnyside Country Club. He is a member of Fresno Chamber of Commerce, Merchants Association and the South Pacific Millers Association. He is a public spirited citizen of California and believes that the future prosperity of the state is yet an unknown quantity. He is a booster for Fresno County and is always ready to assist any projects that will bring settlers within the borders of the county.

JESSE BUELL ALLEN.—To be successfully engaged in one line of business in the same city for sixteen years is in itself a recommendation for first-class workmanship and service. This is the record possessed by Jesse B. Allen, Fresno's leading interior decorator and painter. Mr. Allen is a native of the Hoosier State, having first seen the light of day at Greencastle, Ind., January 3, 1843. His father, Robert D. Allen, was born in Cumberland County, Ky., of an old Virginia family which is traced back to Ephraim Allen, a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and the tallest man in the army at the time. Robert Allen was a contractor and helped to build the Asbury University Building at Greencastle. When Jesse was five years of age his parents moved to Texas, where his father died, and afterwards his mother, Mary Ann (Ritchey) Allen, also born in Cumberland County, moved back to Cumberland County, in 1848, and in this state he finished his education, following which he engaged in farming.

During the Civil War Mr. Allen saw service in the Confederate Army, being a member of Company I, Gen. John Morgan's famous scouts, and took part in all of the most important battles in Tennessee, Georgia, and Virginia. He was also a member of General Forrest's body-guard at the battle of Chickamauga, and at the close of the war surrendered at Mt. Sterling, Ky.

After the war Mr. Allen followed farming in Mississippi County, Mo., later moving to Temple, Texas, in which section he was one of the pioneer settlers. In 1887 he sought the salubrious climate of California for the benefit of his health. After arriving in Fresno County, he first purchased ten acres of raw land in the West Park district, later increasing his acreage by buying twenty additional acres, which he improved. He developed his property and brought it to such a high state of cultivation that at that date it was regarded as one of the best vineyards in the county. In those early days, however, the price of grapes was so small that it did not pay vineyardists enough to justify picking the grapes; so in 1890 he sold his ranch and moved to Fresno.

While living in Hickman, Ky., Mr. Allen learned the trade of a paper-hanger, painter and interior decorator, which he followed in Kentucky and Texas. Upon moving to the city of Fresno, he bought a lot on the corner of Inez and Ventura Avenues, where he erected his home and has resided ever since 1902. In Fresno, Mr. Allen has succeeded in building up an enviable



G. E. Ahlberg

reputation in his chosen line, as well as a large and profitable business, all unsolicited which is the best advertisement.

Jesse Buell Allen has been twice married; his first wife was Maggie E. Nunn, a native of Kentucky, in which state they were married in 1867. She passed away in 1873, having been the mother of three children, all of whom are deceased. Mr. Allen's second marriage took place in Troy, Texas, August 5, 1879, and united him with Anna Hand, a native of Shelby County, Ala., and the daughter of Rev. J. C. Hand and his wife Martha (Smith) Hand, natives of Georgia. Her father was a minister in the Baptist Church. He removed to Texas, where he was a pioneer minister in Bell County, Texas, and later he returned to Alabama, where he died. This union was blessed by six children, four of whom are living: Lawson J. is the secretary of the Fresno Merchants' Association; Harry is ranching west of Fresno; Mary is the wife of George Wachold, of Fresno; Glennroy is associated with the moving-picture business in Los Angeles. Mr. and Mrs. Allen are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

GUSTAV E. AHLBERG.—A pioneer rancher of the Fowler district who has developed forty acres from a stubble-field to a very productive vineyard, and assisted by his two able sons has made substantial improvements, is Gustav E. Ahlberg, a highly respected citizen, once broad-shouldered, strong and healthy, but now partially paralyzed. He was born at Halmstad, Sweden, on January 6, 1858, and when twenty-three years old first came to Fresno County. His father was Bernhart Nicholas Ahlberg, who was the chief executive officer, or sheriff, of the province of Halland in Sweden, where he owned forty acres. His mother died when he was only two years old, and he was brought up by his stepmother.

He grew up on the home farm, became a member of the state church, attended public school, and at the same time took care of his father's farm. He served one year of two terms in the king's military service, and then bidding good-bye to his father and brother and sisters, came to America, arriving in Fresno County in 1881. He was influenced to take this momentous step by the letters of his sister and brother-in-law, P. O. Lindstrom, who came to Fresno County from Sweden over forty years ago. Mr. Lindstrom, who died on July 16, 1882, was the pioneer blacksmith of Easton, and a man of experience. Mr. Ahlberg liked Fresno County from the start, and was not long in accepting an engagement to work on farms. His ability was soon appreciated, and he was made manager of Judge Stephen S. Nye's vineyard, one of the extensive and important holdings of this region.

In 1889, Mr. Ahlberg was married to Miss Matilda Thelander, and soon after he bought his forty-acre vineyard from Mr. Marden of the Nye-Marden Colony. He became active in American civic life, affiliating himself with the Republican party. In 1904 his good wife died; and since then he has remained a widower. Three children were granted this happy couple. Carl G. has charge of the ranch; William died in April, 1914, when he was about twenty-one years old; while Edward is at home and helps his brother Carl.

FRANK J. NOLAN.—A skilful captain of industry who, as president and manager of the Fresno Cooperage Company, has well guided the affairs of one of the city's most important business organizations is Frank J. Nolan, who was born in Santa Cruz in 1877, was educated in the public schools of San Francisco, and in the Pacific metropolis learned the cooper's trade. In April, 1903, he came to Fresno, and for some time made barrels by hand, for which he became locally famous. Few craftsmen were more needed in the early days of Fresno than a first-class cooper; and Mr. Nolan's ability, together with his steady, conscientious application to the work of each day, and his desire to leave nothing undone to please his customers, speedily told in favor of the new enterprise.

When the steady increase in patronage warranted the move, the business was incorporated in 1907, for \$50,000, and a fully equipped barrel machine plant was installed. Ten years later the business was reincorporated for twice the former amount. Located on a tract of fifteen acres at California and East Avenues, the cooperage plant has a capacity of from 800 to 1,000 barrels per day and employs from sixty to eighty men; and it keeps the special sidings of both the Santa Fe and the Southern Pacific railroads busy handling over \$750,000 worth of business that is done there annually. Barrels to the number of 150,000 are shipped annually to different points in California; and the concern receives annually 150 carloads of staves and forty carloads of headings from the southern states, and about twenty-five carloads of steel from Pennsylvania.

KELLAR-THOMASON-FLEMING COMPANY.—Born in Darke County, Ohio, on October 18, 1872, Rolla C. Fleming, the local company's secretary, treasurer and manager, was taken at the age of six years to Sullivan County, Ill. At the age of twenty-two he entered the employ of the Wabash Railroad, taking a post in the passenger department, and as a railroad man worked his way through the different departments until he was made division passenger agent. Wherever he labored, whatever he undertook, the result was the same: his employers found in him an intelligent, conscientious worker, whose aptness, experience and fidelity made him dependable under all circumstances.

In October, 1912, Mr. Fleming arrived in Los Angeles and entered the employ of the Kellar-Thomason Company, traveling for them on the road for five years. In November, 1917, he settled in Fresno, and immediately began to build up the business which has made the first year of the company here so successful. Mr. Fleming is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Fresno, the Commercial Club of Fresno, and the Merchants' Association of Fresno; and he is thus able to exercise a beneficent influence in various channels.

For centuries the methods of irrigation remained unchanged; but during the past two decades there have been great developments, and the associates in the Kellar-Thomason-Fleming Company were privileged to share largely in the honors for the reforms and advancement. More than twenty years ago in Southern California two men, George E. Kellar and E. O. Thomason of Covina, both of them practical ranchers and orchardists, were irrigating their lands by the then prevalent mud-ditch method. That method was, to say the least, wasteful of both water and physical energy, and realizing its inadequacy and crudeness, they helped to bring into practical use what is now known as the "KT" system. Their idea, briefly, was to use some sort of pipe to overcome the loss of water occasioned by evaporation and seepage and, further, to make practical irrigation easy by equipping the pipe-line with improved outlets. They first took up the manufacture of concrete pipe for their own use, finding that the making of this kind of pipe was within the range of possibilities, and that concrete pipe met two important requirements; cheapness and durability. There were at that time exceptional cases where some sort of pipe, either concrete, vitrified or iron, was in use to convey water over some specially porous or gravelly stretch of land, but irrigating water was usually permitted to flow through weedy mud ditches. The use of concrete pipe put the water under control to a certain extent, but the first method employed for releasing and distributing it was quite crude, consisting of a slide gate operated in the pipe-line at every stand-pipe where water was to be turned out. This always gave trouble; for when the gate was closed at a stand-pipe, in order that the water might overflow there, several stand-pipes on about the same level would also overflow at the same time. This system was therefore superseded by the "valve system," which was adopted after several years of experimenting and actual practice, and

which led to the inventing and patenting, in 1904, of the "KT" valve, and in 1905, of the "KT" gate, and later of other useful appliances. The immediate advantage of the "KT" system is that, instead of first using the mud ditches and afterward installing some better arrangement, the best system is at once put in, thus from the beginning guaranteeing additional crops, which quickly return the apparently heavy investment. How great a saving to the progressive rancher such an advanced method is may be seen from the fact that an experienced engineer has recently declared that of the millions of dollars annually expended by our irrigation districts for water and for applying it to cultivated crops, fully seventy percent. is wasted. The "KT" system of irrigation is essentially superior to all others on the market, as is shown by the constantly increasing demand for it.

The plant of this now famous company is located at 1218-1236 East Twenty-eighth Street, Los Angeles, and is the largest in the world given solely to the manufacture of irrigation appliances. The officers are: George C. Martin, president, Los Angeles; R. Coffsen, vice-president, Los Angeles; and Charles Montgomery, secretary and treasurer, Los Angeles. The Kellar-Thomason-Fleming Company, which has its offices at 2031 Kern Street, Fresno, was incorporated in November, 1917, and at once started business with these officers: George C. Martin, president, Los Angeles; R. Coffsen, vice-president, Los Angeles; and Rolla C. Fleming, secretary, treasurer and manager, Fresno.

WILLIAM HELM.—The interest which attaches to the biography of California pioneers is not that of curiosity, but a visible expression of gratitude which all men feel towards those forerunners of civilization in the far West. Not only as a pioneer of the state, but also as one of the earliest residents of Fresno County, William Helm held a high position among the people of the city and county of Fresno.

A native of Canada, William Helm was born in the province of Ontario, about forty miles above Montreal, on the St. Lawrence River, on March 9, 1837, a son of George and Mary (Oliver) Helm, both of whom were born in Scotland, the latter of English parentage on the paternal side. George Helm lived in Scotland until he was a young man, then emigrated to America and settled in Galt, Ontario, where he farmed until his death. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Helm came to California and made her home in San Francisco where she died at the age of about eighty-two years. Mr. and Mrs. George Helm were parents of nine children, of whom William became a pioneer of Fresno County.

Reared on the home farm and educated in the public schools of his community, William Helm early learned the rudiments of farming and of the stock business under his father. In 1856, then only nineteen years of age, he left home and came to Wisconsin, where he was engaged in lumbering on the Chippewa River, and in operating a sawmill, for three years. He then made up his mind to come to California. Going to New York, he sailed from that city in 1859 to Panama, crossed the Isthmus and took passage on a vessel that landed him in San Francisco. He went at once to the Sacramento Valley and in Placer County found his first work with a butcher, remaining for some time and learning the butcher business and following it at Forest Hill and in Todds Valley. And still later he was engaged in the sheep business in Bear Valley, Placer County, where he had a good range for his increasing bands. In 1865 he brought his sheep down into Fresno County, which at that time was a vast open space, with no improvements and not a mile of railway. At Dry Creek, on section four, six miles north-east of what is now the city of Fresno, Mr. Helm purchased 2,640 acres of land from Mr. Chapman, paying one dollar per acre for it. Here his bands of sheep increased rapidly and he added to his landed interests until he owned some 16,000 acres and 22,000 head of sheep, being for many years the largest

sheep-raiser in this part of the country. He established winter quarters on what is now the site of Fresno courthouse, little dreaming that in a few years there would be a city, unsurpassed by few others in the entire state, located on the spot. When the wool was sacked it was hauled to Stockton for shipment, necessitating three wagons, each drawn by ten mules, and the journey required twelve days to make the round trip.

Mr. Helm established his residence in Fresno and continued his operations, and in time he brought water from Kings River and began to develop his land. He was one of the stockholders that built the Gould ditch. As settlers came to the county he sold off his land at advantageous prices, retaining several thousand acres which he used for sheep-raising and on which he set out vineyards, until he had about 700 acres. Mr. Helm erected the Helm block, at the corner of J and Fresno Streets, and built up other property here. He was interested in the Farmers' National Bank of California, also was one of the organizers and vice-president of the Bank of Central California until his death. After an unusually busy and useful career Mr. Helm lived retired from all labors, spending part of his time in San Francisco. He died at the home of his daughter, April 10, 1919, just past eighty-two years of age.

The marriage that united William Helm with Miss Fannie S. Newman occurred in Placer County. Mrs. Helm was born in England, but was reared and educated in New York. Of their union seven children were born: Jessie, Mrs. C. S. Cox, of Fresno; George I., a vineyardist of Fresno County; Frank M., a resident of Fresno, also interested in a vineyard; Fannie, Mrs. E. A. Walrond, of Fresno; Mary, Mrs. Dr. J. L. Maupin, of Fresno; Agnes, Mrs. Dr. Montgomery Thomas, also of Fresno; and Maude, Mrs. M. M. Dearing, at home. Mr. Helm was a staunch Republican, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and at all times was ready to give substantial encouragement for the upbuilding of the city and county of Fresno, where the busy years of his life were spent. Mrs. Helm died in Fresno, April 22, 1906, in her sixty-fifth year.

It is difficult to overestimate the beneficent effect upon the growth and prosperity of the San Joaquin Valley which the work of William Helm had. Not only was he an eye witness to practically every step in the great scheme of development of the agricultural and horticultural resources, but he bore a conspicuous part in transforming a vast region, that was but little more than a desert waste, into one of the most productive sections of the entire state of California. Throughout his career he was ever mindful of the rights and privileges of others and earnestly cooperated with his fellow citizens in all efforts to advance the welfare of the community. The remarkable success that rewarded his labors was the result of perseverance and indefatigable industry. Mr. Helm belonged to that strong type of pioneer citizen who survived despite the obstacles constantly presented in the earlier days of statehood. The brief record of his life history, which was so closely interwoven with the history of the San Joaquin Valley, will prove of increasing interest to the younger generation and students of history as the years pass.

GEORGE LAMERS.—It isn't what a man has, but what he does with what he has that determines his standing in a community. A man may be possessed of the brightest of minds, or an abundance of wealth, but if he does not develop his brain, or if he uses his money for his own selfish ends, he has reflected no credit upon himself nor upon the community. A man with less of either brain or money, rightly expended, will reflect a greater luster. With what respect do we look upon the man who has come to the top knowing every step of the ladder.

Such a man is George Lamers, who was born at Nykobing, Jylland, Denmark, September 21, 1882. His father, Edward Lamers, was a native of Denmark, a carpenter by trade, who died when the son was only four years of age.

His mother, Elise Marie (Nielsen) Lamers, since her husband's death has married again and lives on the old home place in Denmark. Her name now is Andersen.

George Lamers attended school in his native land, and remained there until he was twenty years old. In 1902 he came to America, locating in Chicago where he worked at the carpenter trade for two years, and then came to Hornbrook, Siskiyou County, Cal., and engaged in railroad work. Soon becoming bridge carpenter for the Southern Pacific, he was later transferred to the car repair shops of the Southern Pacific Railroad at Dunsmuir, Cal., and stayed there four years. In 1909 he resigned from his work at Dunsmuir and came to Fresno, taking employment with the Santa Fe Railway Company. He is an able workman and the company has recognized his worth by making him foreman of the car repair shops at Fresno, where there are thirty-eight men employed.

He was married in San Jose, to Mary Jensen, a native of Denmark. They live in one of the companies' houses at Calwa, a suburb of Fresno, are members of the Danish Lutheran Church at Fresno, and are highly respected by all who know them. And so, perhaps never thinking of doing it, he is illustrating the truth of what a poet has said, "Honor and fame from no condition rise, act well your part—there all the glory lies."

LEWIS HOWELL SMITH.—A thoroughly successful man and an attorney who occupies a prominent place at the bar of California, bringing to the practice of his profession an active brain, a well trained mind, commendable zeal and habits of industry, Lewis Howell Smith, of Fresno, has attained an honored place among the leading lawyers of that city. A native of Illinois, he was born at Peoria, November 3, 1872, a son of the late John Boyd and Lucetta (Howell) Smith, natives of Pennsylvania and Illinois respectively.

John Boyd Smith was born at Sunbury, Pa., where he attended the public schools. When a young man he went to Illinois and was engaged in the banking business, becoming one of the founders, and the cashier, of the Mechanics' National Bank, which afterwards became the Merchants' National Bank of Peoria. In 1889 he removed to Fresno, Cal., with his family, and here he became associated with the Fresno National Bank, remaining as cashier until his death, in 1893, at the age of sixty-four years. For more than forty years he was engaged in the banking business and was widely known as an able financier. Mrs. Smith's father, Lewis Howell, an early settler of Peoria, was a man of great financial ability, and for many years was president of the Peoria National Bank. Mr. and Mrs. Smith became the parents of six children, four of whom are living: Boyd; Mrs. W. E. Stone, of Peoria; Lewis Howell, of this review; and Elsie. One son, Archie A., became the cashier of the Fresno National Bank in 1895, and remained in that position until his death, in 1899. Mrs. Smith survived her husband until May, 1917, when she passed away in Fresno.

Lewis Howell Smith attended the grammar and high schools at Peoria, Ill., until he accompanied his parents to Fresno, Cal., in 1889. Soon after he arrived here he was in the employ of the United States government as a mail carrier for a year or more. In 1891 he entered Stanford University and was graduated from that institution in 1895, with the degree of LL.B., having the distinction of receiving the first law diploma issued by that university. The ensuing year Mr. Smith worked in the office of Judge Carter, then superior judge of Fresno County, later, from 1896 to 1898, he was in partnership with Judge Carter, under the firm name of Carter & Smith. For the next three years Mr. Smith carried on an independent law practice, then, in July, 1901, he became associated with Judge Ostrander, under the name of Smith & Ostrander, with offices in the Forsyth Building. This partnership continued in force for five years, during which time the firm was associated with many of the prominent cases tried in Fresno County. At the end of

the five years, Mr. Smith once more carried on an independent practice. In 1897 he was elected city attorney and served a two-year term. Mr. Smith is recognized as a most skilled lawyer and has been one of the leading members of the bar in Fresno, and as such he has been associated with many important cases. In the case of the *People vs. McDaniels*, a copy of which is transcribed in the California Reports and in the American State Reports, he served as attorney for the defendant and won the case in the supreme court, to which it was appealed, the supreme court reversing a former decision and establishing a constitutional precedent that has since been taken up in law journals throughout the land. In 1913, Mayor Snow appointed Mr. Smith city attorney and he served until 1917.

In Georgetown, Cal., L. H. Smith was united in marriage on April 20, 1899, with Miss Maude Shepherd, a native of California and a daughter of B. F. Shepherd, one of the '49ers in California, who was a prominent merchant in Georgetown. When he retired he made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Smith in Fresno. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Smith four children were born: Archie A., who volunteered on his eighteenth birthday for radio service in the United States Navy; serving from July, 1918, to February, 1919, when he was honorably discharged and returned home; Marilyn Maude, Barbara and Dorothy. Mr. Smith is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, of which he served as president at one time. He belongs to the Benevolent Protective Order of Elks and the Eagles; the Commercial Club; the Sequoia Club; and the University Club, all of Fresno; and the Sigma Nu Society of Stanford University. He is a member of the County Bar Association. As a staunch Republican, Mr. Smith has taken a prominent place in the councils of the party and has served on county and state committees. He is public-spirited, progressive and an active upbuilder of the city, county and state, ready at all times to give substantial encouragement to all worthy projects. With his family he enjoys the good will and esteem of an ever widening circle of friends and business associates.

ELLSWORTH M. NORTHRUP.—An industrious, self-made man who has become a prosperous rancher and enjoys the reputation for a man of good judgment and generous impulses, is Ellsworth M. Northrup, popularly called "Cap" Northrup. His twenty-acre ranch adjoins Laton, Fresno County, Cal., on the west, and there he and his good wife and children have a home of genuine hospitality. Mr. Northrup was born in New Jersey, on March 20, 1865, the son of Joseph Northrup who had married Ella Ward. The latter died in New Jersey when Ellsworth was a child, and the youngest of four children, of whom two lived. The other, a sister, is now Mrs. Josie E. Johnson, and she resides at Santa Cruz. Soon after his mother's death, his father moved with his family to Clark County, in northeastern Missouri, and having been a druggist by profession in New Jersey, he opened a drug store at Peaksville, Mo. Later, however, he became a farmer; and on his ranch he died at the age of seventy-seven.

"Cap" Northrup attended the common schools, grew up on a farm, and was married in Iowa, whither he went when he was twenty-six. He was twenty-nine when he took Miss Alma J. Washburn for his bride, the lady being a daughter of Ebenezer and Mary Washburn; and in the meantime he had been employed in the powder works at Keokuk and on a farm.

In 1900, Mr. and Mrs. Northrup came west to Laton. His wife's uncle was the late J. Q. Hancock, a prosperous rancher who wrote Ellsworth and advised him to come to California; and when he moved west, he brought a car-load of stock and implements, having made up the contents of his load in Iowa. He at first bought and improved a piece of forty acres southwest of Laton, from which he cut 2,000 cords of wood, all of the second growth. This involved a great deal of hard labor, but the proceeds was enough to pay for the first cost of the land, and in this way he got the good start which has ever since spelled prosperity. Anyone visiting the Northrup estate will ob-

serve at once that he is a careful, industrious, and frugal man. He has built a handsome bungalow and desirable farm buildings and has equipped himself with whatever he needs. The convenient location of his ranch, at the fork of the road a short distance west of the town, has also assisted him forward. There he and his family enjoy the fruits of an industrious and well-ordered life. There are four children who gather at times around the Northrup fire-side: Audrey May is the wife of Roy Miller, the rancher at Tranquillity, and she is the mother of two children; Eula Lee, Anna Dean, and Glen Arthur are still under the paternal roof.

Mrs. Northrup was formerly Alma J. Washburn. Her maternal grandmother was a Hancock,—an own sister to the above mentioned late J. Q. Hancock. Mrs. Northrup's mother advanced him the money with which to come west to California for his health, his life being despaired of. Here he recuperated and became one of the most prosperous as well as most highly respected citizens on the Laguna de Tache. It should be mentioned that Mrs. Northrup is a direct descendant of the immortal John Hancock, signer of the Declaration of Independence.

The name "Cap" was given our subject by his grandfather while he was a likable little tot playing about his grandfather's knees.

FRANK REHORN.—A striking example of the value to himself, his friends and the community in which he lived, of a well-planned and well rounded-out career, is afforded in the life of Frank Rehorn, the widely-known contractor and builder, who closed his eyes to this busy world on August 31, 1916, leaving name, fame and a modest fortune. He was born in New York City on November 18, 1862, the son of H. W. and Margaret (Shields) Rehorn, and moved to Tennessee with the family, when he was fourteen years old. His school education was obtained, therefore, in New York and Tennessee. On attaining to his nineteenth year, he left home and began to make his way alone. He went to Kansas and then worked at the builders trade. When twenty-five years old he came to California and settled in Fresno. Mr. Rehorn's ability for both initiative and fortunate consummation were soon recognized, and one by one he built the principal houses in the town. These included the Patterson business and office block, and also the Fresno Republican and the Telephone buildings.

On November 24, 1890, Mr. Rehorn married Miss Myrtle Conrad, and in time he built his own beautiful home. A son, Ralph L., is in the Union National Bank, having graduated from the University of California; and there is a daughter, Helen M. Rehorn.

Frank Rehorn was as exemplary as a Republican, working hard for clean politics, as he was a model Christian with Protestant preferences. He loved Masonry and was a good soul with the Shriners, while he also participated cordially in the social life of the Woodmen of the World and the Elks. When he came to lay aside earthly cares and earthly pleasures, he was deeply mourned by all who knew him.

JOHN W. WATKINS.—A recent and valuable addition to the professional circles of Fresno is found in the person whose name heads this review, John W. Watkins, the popular attorney and junior member of the law firm of Burns & Watkins, of Fresno. He is a native of Ralls County, Mo., where he was born on November 8, 1870. His early education was received in the public schools of his native state, and was supplemented by a course at Westminster College, at Fulton, Mo., which institution he attended for two and one-half years.

Mr. Watkins' father was an attorney, and it is quite natural that we find the son, in his early manhood, in his father's office, studying the interesting intricacies of jurisprudence, and by associating with his father absorbing many practical lessons from his extensive experience, which no doubt John Watkins, the Fresno attorney, finds invaluable today in the prosecution

of his profession. While living in Missouri, Mr. Watkins was quite active in politics.

Like all young and vigorous Americans, John, as a young man, was especially fond of the great American game; so in 1893 we find him as a semi-professional ball player in Fresno County, Cal., where for one year he was a member of the Selma team. He also played ball in the Texas league and at Jefferson City, Mo., as also through the Middle West.

In 1904, he came again to California, where he was engaged for three years as a traveling representative of an insurance company.

Mr. Watkins was admitted to the bar in 1911, and became a partner of his father-in-law, the well-known attorney of Fresno, James A. Burns, whose life is sketched on another page of this history.

On May 21, 1908, John Watkins was united in marriage with Miss Nan Burns. The domestic felicity of Mr. and Mrs. Watkins has been greatly enhanced by the addition to the family of a little daughter, Ann Catherine, now one year of age.

Fraternally, Mr. Watkins is an Odd Fellow, and is a member of Central California Lodge No. 343, of Fresno; he is also past district grand master.

JOHN WESLEY FLY.—A brave old soldier with an enviable war record, and a citizen equally esteemed for his virtues as a man and father, and one who is glad and proud to acknowledge in his devoted wife one of the most loyal and efficient of helpmates, whose influence and foresight have had much to do with his success, while she has contributed to the betterment of the community in which she lives, is John Wesley Fly, who was born near Cassville, Barry County, Mo., in 1844. His grandfather, Jerry Fly, was born in England and settled in Tennessee; from which circumstance it happened that his father, A. P. Fly, was born in Tennessee. The latter married Miss Rillia Cantrell, a native of Tennessee, who came of Irish ancestors, and he then moved to Arkansas and finally to Missouri, where he established himself as a farmer, and in Missouri the good parents died. Fourteen children made up the family, and John W. and A. L. Fly, two of the sons, served in the same regiment during the Civil War.

Brought up on a farm, John Wesley enjoyed but limited educational opportunities at the public school, and on January 3, 1863, demonstrated his patriotism at Fayetteville, Ark., when he volunteered for service in the Union Army, and joined Company H, First Missouri Cavalry. He was in the Battle of Little Rock and also the Battle of Camden, and with his regiment went through many severe engagements as well as minor skirmishes, sticking to the dear old Flag for two years and nine months, or until the close of the war, during which time he never received a scratch. In September, 1865, he had the great satisfaction at St. Louis of being honorably discharged from the service.

At the conclusion of the war Mr. Fly came home to the farm, having also previously, in 1864, had the benefit of a furlough; and then began seriously to think of establishing himself in domestic comfort. He had been engaged for some years to a lady whose family were Southerners, and under the circumstances, this might have proved a barrier; but she remained true to him and to the Union, and on June 11, 1864, he was joined in wedlock to Miss Charioty Clark, a native of Arkansas who was brought up in Missouri, and a daughter of Thomas and Nancy (Comes) Clark, natives of Tennessee; she was the eighth child in a family of twelve children, ten of whom are living.

Mr. and Mrs. Fly engaged in farming in Missouri, and bought a ranch in Barry County, which promised all they could desire. In 1883, however, they sold out and moved to Routt County, Colo., where they engaged in the cattle business. They began at the bottom, and studied the industry thoroughly, and in time made his brand, 4/5, a trade-mark of enviable value. They took up land, and for twenty years continued in the cattle business.



Mr + Mrs John W. Kelly

When Mr. Fly had reached his fifty-sixth year he broke down in health and sold his stock, thinking that cessation of labor and responsibility would contribute to his cure; but having been advised by physicians to change to a lower altitude he sold his ranch, and in 1904 came to California. A careful investigation into the merits of the various sections of the Golden State impressed him with the advantages offered by Fresno County, and here he bought the place, three-quarters of a mile from Clovis, now widely known as the result of his management. Originally it contained about fifteen acres set to peaches; but he found that this involved too much care and so he sold ten acres and retained five for himself. He also found the land unfavorable for peaches, and cutting down the peach trees he planted the acreage to sultana grapevines.

Five children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Fly: Fountain E. is a rancher at Gridley, Cal.; Miranda has become Mrs. Voice, of Clovis; Gertrude, her sister, better known as Mrs. Sellers, lives near by in the same town; Ellen is Mrs. Ducey, of the Barstow Colony, in Fresno County; and Allie is Mrs. Jones, and lives at International in the same county. The estimable couple have twenty-two grandchildren and fourteen great-grandchildren. They attend the Methodist Episcopal Church in Clovis, where Mr. Fly has been for years a member of the official board; and Mr. Fly is a member of Atlanta Post No. 92, G. A. R., at Fresno.

FREDERICK BADER.—An enterprising business man of many-sided experience, who has contributed valuably to the solution of good-roads problems, is Frederick Bader, the president and manager of the Warswick Street Paving Company. As a youth he pursued the usual elementary courses, and studied mechanical engineering. He followed his profession in St. Louis, Mo., and afterwards in Philadelphia until he engaged with the Bradford Oil Company and went abroad to do engineering for them while they were exploring their lands in Galicia.

On his return to the United States, Mr. Bader came to Butte County, Cal., in 1885, where he purchased land, and while improving it was in the employ of the South Feather River Mining Company in the colonization of their lands. Selling out in 1889, he located in Fresno County and purchased forty acres near Fowler, which he improved to vineyard. Selling this in 1893, he engaged in merchantile business in Hanford for a time. He then became interested in the oil business both as a developer of oil and as a contractor for oil wells, operating in Coalinga and the Kern River field. About the same time he started contracting for street paving and incorporated the Warswick Street Paving Company, with headquarters in Fresno, of which he has been president and manager for the last fifteen years. The company has constructed sixty miles of the State Highway, and has built eighty miles of paved streets, as well as erected many bridges. This financial and industrial leadership has made Mr. Bader an influential member of the Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants' Association.

Mr. Bader was married, in 1909, to Miss Marie Markfelt; and with his wife he enjoys the social life of the Elks.

ROBERT SCOTT.—Preeminent among the cornerstones of commerce in Selma is the Walter Scott Company, dealers in groceries and hardware, whose store is at 2014-16 Second Street, under the direction of Robert Scott, the company's president and manager. His father, the late Walter Scott, was the founder of the firm and was rated as one of Selma's most important business men. A Canadian by birth, he was born at Paris, that country, on January 24, 1835, and when a young man came to Michigan to work in the lumber camps. There he married Miss Martha Scott, who, though of the same name was of no kinship with him, and in 1869, with their first child, Mary (now the wife of G. W. Woods of Selma), they moved to Lancaster County, Nebr., where he took up a homestead of 160 acres. He also there

availed himself of his preemption and timber-claim rights, and proved up 480 acres in three different tracts near Bennett. He eventually became the owner of much Nebraska land and engaged extensively in the stock business.

In 1873, the elder Scott diversified his work by engaging in the general merchandise business at Bennett, Nebr., and soon built up a good trade, but for three or four years in succession the grasshoppers destroyed crop after crop and that whole section of the country was devastated, so much so that even the Indians hurried away to keep from starving. Under the fearful stress of these awful conditions, Mr. Scott's business was utterly ruined, and the holder of a mortgage took his homestead, upon which, at great labor and expense he had put out an extensive apple orchard, one of the first in Lancaster County. This apple orchard contained some very choice fruit trees, which were sheltered and protected by three rows of cottonwoods, and this Mr. Scott had to sell in order to save himself. The very next year was an excellent one for apples, and such a bumper crop did the buyer of the homestead harvest that when he had boxed the apples and shipped them to Lincoln he was able, from the proceeds, to pay for the entire 160 acres. Mr. Scott had been a teamster and freighter when he first came to Nebraska, and he hauled from Nebraska City to the new settlement in Lancaster County before Lincoln was founded, and before the Union Railway was in full operation. After the grasshopper scourge he reengaged in the stock business, and owing to the plentifulness of free ranges, he prospered; he bought heavily of railroad, school and other lands and was soon on the road to prosperity again. His next move was to Stromberg, Nebr., where he and his son-in-law, G. W. Woods, engaged in the general merchandise business for about twelve years. Eventually they sold out and bade goodbye to scenes with which they had been so closely identified, and came to the Pacific Coast.

Here they settled in the Lewis River Valley, in Washington, and again engaged in the general merchandise business, at Woodland. Realizing, however, that that place was too small for him, Mr. Scott made a trip to Central California, visiting the vicinity of Selma, and he was so well pleased with all that he saw, and what his prophetic vision enabled him to forecast, that he bought land for himself and his son-in-law, three miles north of town. Then, having decided to come to Selma for the purpose of improving his purchase, he brought from Washington his entire family, and the party arrived on November 1, 1891. He at once started to improve his ranch, and a few months later, in March, 1892, started in business as well, buying out J. F. Hall, of the firm of Ross & Hall, dealers in general merchandise, the firm becoming Ross & Scott. In 1895, Mr. Ross also sold out to Walter Scott, and the firm name was changed to Walter Scott & Co. The firm continued to prosper and business increased so rapidly, that in 1901 the company was duly incorporated under the name of the Walter Scott Company, with the following officers: Walter Scott, president; Hattie M. Gill, vice-president; Charles Schweandt, secretary; and Walter G. Scott, treasurer and manager.

In a side-hill dugout on the homestead near Bennett, Nebr., Walter G. Scott was born, October 8, 1870, as was also his second sister, Hattie M., now the wife of S. H. Gill. Their mother died in Nebraska, and was buried near Palmyra in that state. The father later married again, taking for his second wife Mrs. M. J. Mitchell, a widow, her maiden name being Martha J. Thomas, and by his second wife Mr. Scott had one son, Robert. Mrs. Scott was the widow of M. J. Mitchell of Nebraska, and she had two sons and one daughter by her first husband: Mrs. A. E. Williams, of Los Angeles; H. M. Mitchell, machinist of Hanford; and Ernest, who died when twenty-one years of age. On the death of Mr. Scott, in 1909, Mrs. Scott moved to Los Angeles, and has since made her home there.

Walter G. Scott continued to manage the business until 1906, when he sold out his interest. Robert Scott and Mrs. Gill continued to conduct the

store under the name of Walter Scott Company until 1914, when they divided the establishment, Mrs. Gill taking the dry goods and organizing the firm of S. H. Gill Company (Inc.), and Robert Scott taking the grocery and hardware departments and retaining the firm name of Walter Scott Company. The present officers of the incorporated company are: President and manager, Robert Scott; vice-president, Mrs. M. J. Scott, the mother of Robert Scott; second vice-president, Mrs. Adah Scott, wife of Robert; secretary and treasurer, Alice S. Bemusdaffer; director, L. L. Cory of Fresno. The firm occupies a large double store and a large warehouse at the rear, also owning and operating still another large warehouse.

Robert Scott was born in Selma, February 2, 1893, and attended the public and high school of his native town, later taking a course at Heald's Business College at Los Angeles, graduating from that institution in 1910. He early began to work in his father's store, first as messenger and delivery boy, then clerk, and finally rising to the position of president and manager of the establishment, and now devotes his time to the business his father founded. Fraternally he is a member of the Native Sons, and past president of the Selma Parlor. He is an active member of the California Raisin Growers Association and also of the California Peach Growers, Inc.

The marriage of Robert Scott, which occurred in Los Angeles, in 1911, united him with Miss Adah C. Conklin, of that city, and one child has been born to them, Norman Hugh. On September 4, 1917, Robert Scott volunteered in the United States Navy for service during the World War; he trained for two months at Goat Island, then was ordered to Norfolk, Va., where he studied and trained as chief gunner in the Ordnance Department for three months, graduated, and was appointed instructor of recruits, which position he held four months, then was transferred to Washington, D. C., remained there until December, 1918, when he was sent back to Goat Island, and received his honorable discharge on December 24, 1918, and arrived home on Christmas eve.

WILLIAM C. FREELAND.—The cashier of the allied banks, the First National Bank and the Selma Savings Bank, of Selma, William C. Freeland, is known among his associates as a financier of ability and a man of unimpeachable integrity, possessed of force of character and good executive ability. Self-made, he has worked his way up from a clerkship to the highest place in the active operation of Selma's foremost financial institution. While Selma claims him as one of her boys, he was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, March 28, 1877, and came to America with his parents, James and Mary A. (Cunningham) Freeland, when he was a lad ten years of age. His father, a blacksmith by trade, lived in Soquel, Santa Cruz County, from 1887 to 1890, and in the latter year came to Selma, where he died, in 1895. His mother is living in Selma, and became the wife of the late John G. S. Arrants, of Selma.

William C. Freeland received his primary education in the schools of Scotland, completing it in the public schools of Santa Cruz County and Selma, graduating from the Selma high school with the class of 1895. He acquired bookkeeping in the high school and was afterwards with the Selma branch of the Kutner-Goldstein Company in the capacity of bookkeeper for a year and a half. A vacancy occurring in the clerkship of the First National Bank in 1897, he took the position and gradually worked himself up until in 1905 he became cashier. Of excellent judgment, and unusually swift and accurate as a cashier, he has held the position up to the present time with credit to himself and the bank.

In 1902, Mr. Freeland was united in marriage with Miss Joanna Heaton, daughter of Joseph and Margaret A. Heaton of Selma. He is the owner of one hundred acres two miles east of Selma which is planted to peaches, apricots, and Muscat and Thompson seedless grapes. A Presbyterian in his religious convictions, he is a member and chairman of the board of trustees of

the church of that denomination at Selma. Fraternally he is prominent in Masonic circles. He is a member of the Blue Lodge Chapter in Selma and of the Commandery at Fresno. He is a Scottish Rite and Thirty-second Degree Mason, and a member of Islam Temple at San Francisco. He is also a member of the Selma Lodge of W. O. W., the largest lodge in Selma.

For eight years Mr. Freeland was a member of the Board of Trustees of the City of Selma and for four years of that time was chairman of the board. For the past five years he has been City Treasurer. He and his good wife are highly respected in business, social and church circles in Selma.

SELMA NATIONAL BANK AND FARMERS SAVINGS BANK OF SELMA.—Among the banking institutions of Selma which have given the city an impetus and placed business on a solid foundation, are the two allied banks, the Selma National Bank and the Farmers' Savings Bank of Selma. The younger of the two institutions, the Selma National Bank, was established January 2, 1913. These banks have the same officers and directors and do business in the same building and office.

Centrally located, with roomy space, beautiful furniture and bank fixtures, ample vaults and perfect appointments, together with the gentlemanly attention their patrons receive, these banks are rapidly forging to the front. Their aim, to render their patrons every service and accommodation consistent with sound finance, has won the confidence of the entire community, among whom their officials are known to be the most substantial and successful men of Selma, whose personal integrity and business ability are beyond question. Under the efficient management of their officers—W. T. Forkner, president; Edward Poulson, vice-president; C. W. Christensen, cashier; Milton Allison, assistant cashier; and Directors W. T. Forkner, Edward Poulson, Scott Manlove, E. S. Hobler, H. S. Hulbert, Dr. F. H. Williams and C. W. Christensen—the banks are rapidly gaining in deposits and volume of business, and are of great assistance in the transaction of the heavy business of the celebrated fruit section of Selma.

They have a combined working capital of \$100,000, combined deposits of \$600,000, and combined resources of \$750,000.

E. MELVIN JOHNSTON, D.D.S.—In professional life as well as in other lines of business Fresno is well represented by native sons. E. Melvin Johnston is one of these. Born in Fresno, October 22, 1887, he attended the grammar and high schools of his native city, graduating from the Fresno High in 1907. He had set his mind on a course in college and in order to secure funds to do so he went into the oil fields in Kern County to earn the necessary money. In the fall of that year he entered Vanderbilt University at Nashville, Tenn., where he remained for a year studying dentistry. He then returned to Fresno and became an assistant in the office of B. B. Cory and remained two years, when he returned to his Alma Mater for another year of study. Young Johnston was energetic and industrious and anxious to complete his course and in consequence he once more came back home and found employment with the San Joaquin & Eastern Railroad Company at construction work for six months. With his earnings he then entered the College of Physicians & Surgeons in San Francisco and was graduated from the dental department in 1912 with the degree of D.D.S. His first location was in San Luis Obispo where he was an assistant in the office of Dr. O. M. Polin for eighteen months. With his several years of practical experience, Dr. Johnston felt able to launch out for himself and in January, 1914, he returned to Fresno and opened an office and began to build up an independent practice and to reap the returns he knew awaited him.

The war in Europe made a change in the plans of this rising dentist and on January 10, 1918, Dr. Johnston was commissioned First Lieutenant in the Dental Reserve Corps of the United States Army. On June 6 of that year he was called into active service and ordered to report at the dental officers training camp at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga. After two months' training



E. Melvin Johnston

he was assigned to Camp Grant, Ill., where he had charge of the dental work of the Eight Hundred Twelfth Infantry. From there he received overseas orders as Dental Surgeon of Base Hospital No. 75. He arrived at Hoboken on November 11, the day the armistice was signed and remained in that city five and one-half weeks before he received his honorable discharge. Dr. Johnston returned to Fresno and on December 25, 1918, opened new offices in the Forsyth Building and resumed his practice. He was the only dentist from Fresno who saw more than four months' active service in the army.

Dr. Johnston was united in marriage with Miss Ethel L. Thomas of San Francisco, and they have one son, E. Melvin, Jr., of whom both parents are justly proud. But for the fact that the child was two pounds over-weight he would have ranked as a one hundred percent. perfect baby. During the service of Dr. Johnston in the army he had his wife and son with him at the different camps until he received orders for overseas duty, when they returned to California.

Dr. Johnston has been prominent in his profession and served as president of the San Joaquin Valley Dental Association for one year. He is now serving as councilman to the California State Dental Association as the representative of the San Joaquin district. He attended the meeting of the National Dental Association held in Chicago in August, 1918, and while there he was a member of the company that gave an exhibition drill before the Association and was reviewed by Major General Gorgas, Surgeon General U. S. A. and Brig. General Noble, U. S. A. Dr. Johnston is second vice-president of Fresno Parlor, N. S. G. W.; is a member of the University Club of Fresno; and is a charter member of the World's War Veterans and a member of the local executive committee.

WARREN SANFORD MUNGER.—An enterprising viticulturist, famed both for his own success and for his activity in promoting movements for the building up of the County, is Warren Sanford Munger, than whom few if any so well deserve a large circle of friends—Mr. Munger's agreeable personality drawing many to him. He was born near Paw Paw, Van Buren County, Mich., on March 11, 1870, the grandson of Luke Munger, who was born near Canton, Ohio, settled in Michigan as a farmer and died there. His father was Lafayette Munger, a native of Boston and a naval constructor who came west to Ohio and made his home there. Warren's father, A. M. Munger, was a farmer and merchant at Schoolcraft, Mich., who engaged in the hardware and implement trade, and was also a stockman and drover. While in Michigan he was married to Olivia Corey, a native of Ohio, who was born in Van Buren County and became a pioneer of Michigan.

In 1889 Mr. Munger came to California, settling for a couple of years in San Francisco, and two years later he removed to Fresno County, where he bought a ranch on White's Bridge road, near Johnson. He made numerous improvements, laid out the forty acres as a vineyard, and resided there until 1901. Then he sold out and removed to Ignatia Valley, Contra Costa County, where he set out one of the first and finest walnut orchards in the state. Now he resides in Oakland, still actively looking after his orchard, and each year celebrating, as a hale and hearty man of seventy-six, his far-away birthday—February 7, 1842. Mrs. Munger died in 1877, the mother of three children: The eldest was Charles E., a mechanic, who died in North Dakota; then came the subject of our review; and the youngest is Al Munger, of Fresno.

Educated in the common and high schools of his neighborhood, Warren became a graduate of the Morgan Park Business College of Chicago, after which he entered the employ of the Grand Trunk Railroad, and for six years was assistant train dispatcher at Schoolcraft. In 1891 he obtained a furlough and came to Fresno County for the summer; and although he subsequently returned to Schoolcraft and continued with the Grand Trunk until

1896, what he had seen of the wonderful opportunities afforded by Central California was a revelation that he never forgot.

Having permanently resigned from the railway service, Mr. Munger made haste to remove to California and bought forty acres of his present place, effecting the transaction with his brother Al as a partner. A year later, he bought his brother out, and then he continued alone to make extensive improvements on the place. He built a handsome residence and good outbuildings, and since then he has bought twenty acres adjoining. Now his sixty acres, at the corner of Belmont and Johnson Avenues, constitute one of the choice ranches, of its size, in the county. Mr. Munger also owns forty acres on Belmont Avenue, two and a half miles to the west. This property he has improved, fenced and cross-fenced, and sown to alfalfa and grain; and he has installed a fine pumping-plant—one of the first in that section. He was one of the builders and is now the owner of the Forsey warehouse at Forsey station. The main Munger ranch is about four miles west of Fresno, and there the sixty acres is devoted to vineyards, with a pretty and profitable border of figs. Muscat and Thompson seedless grapes flourish under the direction of the experienced viticulturist. From the time when the first efforts were made to form a raisin association here Mr. Munger supported the movement; and he is today active in the California Associated Raisin Company.

At Schoolcraft, April 17, 1895, Mr. Munger was married to Miss Nellie M. Kohl, a native of the old Kalamazoo County, by whom he has had two children. Dorris is a graduate of Fresno High School, and Duane is the younger. While in the East, also, Mr. Munger was made a Mason, joining the F. & A. M. order at Schoolcraft.

A Republican in national politics, Mr. Munger served for many years as a member of state and county committees. He has also done good civic duty as a school trustee of the McKinley school district, where he has been clerk of the board, and as a member of grand juries, sometimes acting as chairman. In business circles Mr. Munger is quite as favorably known as a man of affairs, being interested in particular in the Pacific National Fire Insurance Company, of which he has been for some time a director.

JOHN SHAFER.—It would be difficult, perhaps, to find a more profitable subject for entertaining study than the lives of those early pioneers who, having set out for a promised land and weathered all the obstacles and adversities of a stormy career, lived to participate in the founding and development of the great commonwealth of the Golden State, and thereby entered into a reward for their toil and good works not always granted even the most meritorious. Among such Americans of the enviable class may well be enumerated John Shafer, now deceased, a man of insight and great force of character, who was born at Everett, Bedford County, Pa., then called Bloody Run, on February 14, 1824. He grew up in Pennsylvania, attending the first public schools of his section, and himself taught school for several years in Bedford County. The Shafers, of most respectable German origin, had lived in Pennsylvania from early Colonial times, and members of the Shafer family still dwell in the house made of heavy solid red cedar logs where John Shafer was born. He became a drover, and bought and sold cattle for an important firm in the East. In their interest, he went to Texas, Arizona and New Mexico, purchased cattle for the market, and drove them to Philadelphia and New York before there were any railroads in the Southwest.

In 1852, he came across the great plains, as captain of an ox team train that outfitted on the Missouri River, and he walked most of the way and was three months in crossing the continent. Arriving in California the same fall, Mr. Shafer bought swamp and overflow land on the Sacramento River, and cut off the timber for wood for the steamboats plying from Sacramento to San Francisco, before the advent of railroads; and when food and pro-

visions were scarce, he planted the cleared land to vegetables, and went in for truck farming as onions, etc. sold for fifty cents apiece, later putting his application to the cultivation of grain, alfalfa, apples and fruit, being one of the first to engage in the important industry of market gardening in the Sacramento Valley.

On February 22, 1860, John Shafer was married at Stockton to Miss Matilda Thankful Humphrey, a native of Rochester, N. Y., who had been reared in Michigan. She crossed the plains in 1854 with her parents in an ox team, and like her husband, walked nearly all the way. Four children blessed their union. The eldest is W. H. Shafer, the civil engineer at Selma, a leader in his profession, who has long been connected with irrigation projects in Fresno County, and whose life is elsewhere sketched in detail in this work. The second in the order of birth is the physician and surgeon, J. E. Shafer, of 2815 Woolsey Street, Berkeley. He was born at Stockton on September 28, 1863, and passed his boyhood in Sacramento County, where he attended the public schools. Later, he taught school in different parts of California and then studied medicine, and was graduated from the Hahnemann Medical College at San Francisco, a member of the Class of '97; in 1889 he was married in Santa Barbara County to Miss Jennie Harman, by whom he has had three children. Since then he has lived in and practiced at Berkeley. The third son is Frank E. Shafer, the retired oil man, who is resident in Pasadena. The youngest child was John A. Shafer, who died, unmarried, when he was twenty-one years of age.

John Shafer was a public-spirited, high-minded man, and it is not surprising that the Shafers have become among the most illustrious of California pioneers. He organized the first reclamation district and built the first levee on Brannan Island; in 1873. He was particularly interested in public schools, and erected the first school house on that island, forty miles below Sacramento. He stayed in Sacramento County from 1852 to 1882, when he moved to the Mendocino district in Fresno County, and there bought a farm of 160 acres, the McClanahan place. Later, he purchased railroad lands in the same vicinity, which he also improved, planting grain and alfalfa, and afterwards vines and trees. He became well-to-do, but not rich, and was influential, so that his death—from an accidental injury—on December 7, 1893, seven months after the demise of his devoted wife, on May 6, 1893, was widely and sincerely deplored. He left in his descendants men and women of virility and force of character, a brainy family with a proper appreciation of historical detail, as one might expect of pioneer blood, and a strong grasp on the essentials of business procedure.

F. G. LADD.—A native son of the Golden West is F. G. Ladd who was born at Stockton, April 6, 1862. His father, Ira W. Ladd, a native of Vermont, came via the Isthmus of Panama about 1852 to California where he followed ranching, teaming and saw-milling. He was married in Stockton to Miss Emily J. Sutherland, a native of New York state. Her father, Jacob Sutherland moved to Chicago and then, about 1851, brought his family across the plains in wagons drawn by ox teams. Ira W. Ladd teamed from Stockton into the Sierra Mountains and into Nevada. He was a good driver, having at times twenty-two mules in a team. He afterwards farmed on a ranch near Stockton, and here he died in 1916, his wife having preceded him in 1908. They had a family of four children. F. G. was the only son and he received a good education. He chose farming for his life work, and went to work at ranching. In Stockton he married Miss Ella Learned, born in Alameda County, the daughter of D. A. Learned, born in Oxford, Mass., who crossed the plains to California in the fall of 1850. After mining in Siskiyou County for a time he went to Idaho where he also mined and then returned to California, engaging in dairying in San Lorenzo, Alameda County. He was married in San Francisco to Gennis D. Hall, born in Chester County, Pa., who

came via the Isthmus of Panama to California in 1860. D. A. Learned and his wife later moved to San Joaquin County and farmed east of Stockton and there they spent their last days.

In 1886, F. G. Ladd came to Fresno County and became a pioneer homesteader and grain-grower of the Cantua district. Mr. and Mrs. Ladd had three children. Elmer is ranching in San Joaquin County; Georgia died at fifteen years of age; and Fred is ranching near the old home. Mr. Ladd is an enterprising man and has been an upbuilder of the county. Fraternally, he is a member of Coalinga Lodge No. 187, I. O. O. F., and is also a member of the Hanford Encampment of Odd Fellows. Mr. Ladd is a well read and much travelled man and is an interesting and instructive talker.

NEHEMIAH W. STEWARD.—A life of well-directed toil, inspired by the principles of the Golden Rule, is exemplified in Nehemiah W. Steward, who came to Selma over a score of years ago and at once established himself in his present business, and who is today one of Selma's best-known and most highly respected business men. He was born in York County, Pa., the son of I. M. Steward, a native of that State, who married Hannah Urey, also a Pennsylvanian. The former came from English and Welsh blood; the latter of good old German stock. Nehemiah's boyhood was passed on his father's farm, and there, at an early age, he began to work hard, to learn to plow, and to do many other useful things.

In 1873, the lad moved with his parents to Iowa, and there he reached his majority. From his fourteenth year he had taken charge of his father's fifty-seven acres in Pennsylvania, while his father, who was a mechanic, worked at his trade; and now that his father found it more profitable to do skilled manual labor, Nehemiah continued to farm. Thrown on his own responsibility not merely for himself but in the care of the business of others, the young man soon developed that shrewd business sense which he has since displayed. Hearing that there were free homestead lands in York County, Nebr., Mr. Steward left the Hawkeye State when he was twenty-one, and took up 160 acres in the new country. He also set to work to improve it and he built a neat home there. His parents migrated with him and shared his home; but from that time he was head of the farming operations.

Four children there were in the family, one having died in infancy; and one of them, now Mrs. George Rickard, resides on a ranch a mile south of Selma.

As soon as possible, Mr. Steward proved up on his fine little homestead, and having continued to make improvements on the farm, he tilled the land and lived upon it nine years. Then he moved still farther westward, and eventually settled in California, first choosing Santa Cruz County. For five years he ran a pack train for the Santa Clara Valley Mill and Lumber Company, and then moved back to York County, Nebr., resumed farming and put in another seven years.

"Once a Californian, always a Californian," however, proved true with Mr. Steward, as it has with so many thousands of other pioneers, and selling out, he came again to the Coast, and this time pitched his tent at Oakland, where he lived a year and a half. In 1896, he came to Selma for the first time. He continued to own and rent out his farm of 160 acres until four years ago when he returned to Nebraska and sold the property. He received the fancy figure of \$100 dollars an acre, and taking the proceeds, he reinvested in twenty acres of highly improved land three miles east of Selma,



John C. Warden

planted with Thompson's seedless and now in full bearing. Since then Mr. Steward has acquired another ranch of twenty-four acres six miles south of Selma, a considerable portion of which is in peaches. He also owns 100 acres in the eastern part of Riverside County, and he has an undivided quarter interest in 360 acres at Bowles, Cal., which he and John C. Rorden, M. Vincent and C. C. Snyder have improved and own jointly, it being so successfully planted to trees and vines that, as full bearing land, it is now a valuable estate. Besides, he owns his store building at 1814 East Front Street, Selma, where he has transacted business for the past twenty-four years, and in addition, he owns some superior Selma residence property.

While he was in Nebraska, during the Centennial year, Mr. Steward was married to Miss Susan Brown, an native of Pennsylvania, who died at Selma in 1911, the mother of six children. Five of these grew up and four are still living: Mrs. Lillie M. Ballard resides at Selma; Charles is married and in the piano business at Selma; Lee is a partner in Byron & Steward, grocers, of Selma; Willie is a farmer near Selma; while Mrs. J. L. Hamilton passed away in the same town.

Mr. Steward comes of sturdy lineage, three of his forebears having passed the age of one hundred. His father lived to be ninety-eight years, six months and five days, and his mother was eighty-two years old when she died. Mr. Steward when resident in Nebraska joined the United Brethren Church, and ever since has been a consistent member of that church and has served as trustee. He is also a public-spirited citizen who believes in associating the church with all the general movements looking to the uplift of the community. He is a member of the Workman of Selma, the Degree of Honor, the Knights of Pythias and the Fraternal Aid. Mr. Steward enjoys the esteem, confidence and good-will of his fellow men.

JOHN C. RORDEN.—It is brain and brawn, together with the advantages of soil and climate, that have placed the Selma district of the San Joaquin Valley in the front rank. It is through the efforts of such leaders as John C. Rorden, president and manager of the Selma Land Company, Inc., that the city of Selma, with all her natural advantages of soil, climate and beauty of situation, has reached the zenith she has attained.

John C. Rorden was born May 28, 1864, on the Island of Föhr, near Schleswig. At the early age of fourteen he began a seafaring life, working at that vocation for the munificent sum of four dollars per month, as a sailor before the mast on a sailing vessel starting from Greenock, Scotland. He followed the calling of the sea for four years, and in that time visited the principal English, Scottish and North European ports, as well as the principal ports of North and South America, doubling Cape Horn four times. Travel is a liberal education in itself and doubtless his early life left its impress on his mentality, broadening his viewpoint and strengthening his determination to make the most of his natural ability.

No place in all his travels appealed to him as did California, and at the age of nineteen he renounced a seafaring life and became a resident of the Golden State, where he has since made his home. He is now one of the most highly respected and prosperous citizens of Selma. From small beginnings he has advanced steadily—from sailor, lumber-jack, cook and barber, to finally become a foremost real-estate man. In 1883, when he first settled in California, he worked in a lumber mill in Mendocino County. He was taken seriously ill with diphtheria while there and after his recovery went to San Francisco where he worked in a restaurant on Third Street. In 1885 he came to Fresno and accepted a position in the Grand Central barber shop on Mariposa Street. In 1888 he came to Selma and from 1888 to 1901 was proprietor of a barber shop in that city. He is now president and manager of the Selma Land Company, whose offices are in the busy center of the city, on the ground floor in the Selma Land Companies Building on Second Street.

The Selma Land Company was organized in 1900 and was then a partnership owned by Walter L. Chapel, W. McClurg and W. McDaniels. Mr. Rorden was induced to buy out two of the partners, later becoming sole owner of the business which has continued as a corporation. Its present officers are John C. Rorden, president and manager; Georgia Rorden, vice-president, and Bert Statham, secretary.

John C. Rorden is a booster who has promoted Selma by taking unimproved land, subdividing, planting, and inducing settlement by the right kind of people, in the favored section known as "Selma, the Home of the Peach." He has also been interested in organizing the raisin-growers and peach-growers of Selma. His first venture was the purchase and subdivision of a 960-acre tract near Caruthers. He has bought, subdivided and successfully disposed of 320 acres near Selma, preparing it for the settler and selling on easy terms. He managed the subdividing of a tract of 880 acres for the Selma Improvement Company in the usual satisfactory and successful way. He is a leading man and official in the California Peach Growers, Inc., which he helped organize. He has twice visited his native country since coming to Fresno County. His parents are now dead.

Mr. Rorden has built several residences in Selma and sold them. To accommodate the rapidly increasing demand for homes in this fast growing community, he is now, 1919, building six new bungalows. He recently purchased two blocks on North McCall Avenue, which will be called Rorden's Stucco Addition. It is one of the most available as well as desirable residence locations of Selma. It will be a restricted district and is finding favor among discriminating buyers of homes. Mr. Rorden is erecting these houses in units of six, and will continue to build and sell until the tract is fully built up. Perhaps no man in Selma or Southern Fresno County has a larger circle of friends. He is a square-dealer and delights in serving and benefitting his fellow men.

On May 28, 1890, Mr. Rorden was married in Selma to Miss Georgia Levis, born in Wisconsin, the result of the union being three daughters, Dora, Cleo, and Helen. The family resides in the comfortable, commodious and homelike residence which Mr. Rorden owns at 2324 Selma Street. In his political views Mr. Rorden is a Democrat and an ardent and patriotic supporter of the administration and its war measures.

LYMAN L. DAVENPORT.—The pioneer of auto electrics in Fresno, Lyman L. Davenport, vice-president of the Electric Laboratories, Inc., is probably the best informed man in this line of work in the entire San Joaquin Valley. He is a specialist and an expert in the business.

Mr. Davenport was born in Dewitt County, Ill., October 31, 1861. His father was engaged in the manufacture of brick and tile, and Lyman L. studied steam engineering and was engineer in his father's tile plant at Waynesville, Ill., for about seven years. He afterwards followed the vocation of steam engineering in other parts of Dewitt County, and also in McLean County, Ill. For one year he was assistant engineer at the Illinois State Reformatory at Pontiac, Ill., and for thirteen years lived in Bloomington, Ill., where he followed the vocation of steam and gas engineering and machine work, becoming an expert machinist. While in this connection he became familiar with electric storage batteries, and with years of experience he became an expert in this line of work also.

May 2, 1903, he came to Fresno County, Cal., where he continued to work at his trade. Later he was engineer in the Chaddock Packing House. In 1905 he became associated with Waterman Brothers as auto electric specialist, and had charge of their electric storage batteries for several years. In 1913 he formed a partnership with C. W. Keiser under the firm name of Davenport & Keiser, and opened an electric shop at 1242 Van Ness Avenue. In the spring of 1917, at the opening of the war, Mr. Keiser joined the United

States Navy, and the firm sold out to the Electric Laboratories, Inc., and Mr. Davenport secured capital to finance the corporation in order to take care of the greatly increasing business. In the summer of 1918 a site was secured and the modern building that is now the home of the Electric Laboratories, Inc., at 1347 Van Ness Avenue, was built. It is one of the largest, most up-to-date battery and auto electrical repair and testing plants in the state. Its owners are dominated by the one thought—the best and most efficient service for their patrons.

For thirty-five years Mr. Davenport has been a member of Prairie State Lodge, No. 104, I. O. O. F., at Waynesville, Ill. For many years he was a member of the National Association of Stationary Engineers, and he was a delegate at two national conventions, one at Rochester, N. Y., and another at Milwaukee, Wis.

His marriage united him with Miss Cora Mattocks, a fair daughter of Illinois. The children born of the union are: Clyde L., manager of the Electric Laboratories, Inc., at Fresno; Elmo M.; and Hazel May, a native daughter of the Golden State, born in the city of Fresno.

In their religious associations the Davenports are members of the First Methodist Church at Fresno.

JAMES MURRAY NIDIFFER.—Four miles west of Laton, about one-quarter of a mile off from Mt. Whitney Avenue, is the home of James Murray Nidiffer, one of the oldest pioneers of the Laguna de Tache. He came to the "Grant" July 8, 1878, and has been actively and extensively engaged in the cattle-business and in farming ever since. He and his good wife live very unostentatiously. Their experiences reach back to the days when the Laguna de Tache was being operated on a very large scale by competent and influential people, who were English and American and who applied up-to-date American business principles, and raised the stock business on the Laguna to a plane of real dignity and sound financial successes, undreamed of by the native inhabitants of the celebrated Spanish grant.

The occupants of the Nidiffer home are cultured and well informed, despite the fact that the boyhood days of its proprietor were passed under conditions of poverty and a general absence of educational advantages which in some portions of the South followed in the wake of the great Civil War.

James Murray Nidiffer was the eleventh child of a family of twelve children of whom six were boys and of whom eleven grew up to maturity. He was born in Carter County, Tenn., on May 13, 1857. His parents were John and Margaret (Jenkins) Nidiffer, both East Tennesseans, who scorned the idea of slavery. When the father prayed "Give us this day our daily bread" his supplication went up to God, free from all desire to eat the "other fellow's" bread, although the other's skin might be black. He worked and sweat at the forge, in the iron region of Tennessee, and in common with a majority of its mountaineers he resolved that this nation should not remain half slave and half free, and it must be said to the everlasting credit of Carter County that it remained loyal to the Union. But Tennessee as a state seceded, and the strifes, contentions and ravages of war, which obtained in that district, can be more easily imagined than described. The father died in 1863 and the courage and nobility of the mother in keeping together and rearing the family under these trying circumstances were commendable indeed. It goes without saying that our subject as a boy had to knuckle down to real work. His education was confined to the rudimentary schools of his district, for a short time during winters. It is only by wide reading and extensive business experiences, extending over many years, that he came to be the well-informed man that he is. Five of the Nidiffer brothers and sisters now live in California. Besides the subject of this review, these are: Mrs. Eliza Hodgdon, a widow residing in Fresno; Mrs. Tilda Lewis, also a widow, residing on a ranch three and a half miles southeast of Lemoore; Perkins Nidiffer, a well-

to-do rancher of the same place; and Mrs. Laura Hansen also a widow, who resides in Fresno.

While yet a boy, our subject moved with his mother to Council Grove, Morris County, Kans., and from nine to ten years of age rode the trail, driving cattle which had been brought up by Simcox-Terwilliger & Company, bankers and cattlemen, from Wichita, Kans., to Missouri. These cattle had been raised in the Indian Nation and were of the Spanish long-horn variety. He, therefore, lived the life of the real cowboy, and he there learned the business very thoroughly, an accomplishment which later was the means of securing him a good position on the Laguna de Tache Grant.

He received letters from some friends at Visalia, Cal., and in consequence was taken with the idea of coming to California. In company with his brother, Perkins Nidiffer, he came out and stepped off the train at Visalia, on April 16, 1875. He went to work immediately on a Tulare County ranch for \$45 per month. Later he entered the employ of John Creighton who during the term of the employment sold 1,100 head of cattle to Granville Furnish, who was then the buyer for Poley Heilbron & Company, who at that time held the Laguna de Tache Grant under lease with the right to buy. Being an adept with the lariat, young Nidiffer was sent up, by Mr. Creighton, to "vent" the cattle,—a branding operation that served the practical purposes of a bill of sale, with the additional advantage of a positive means of identification. Poley Heilbron & Company were so well pleased with him and his work that they engaged him in their employ on the Grant. This resulted in a fifteen years' engagement with the firm, and he was soon placed in full charge of their cattle department. He looked after the fences as well as the cattle. It is therefore safe to say that he knows all about the soil and other conditions of the great Laguna de Tache country, having been over every portion of it, before it was divided up. He well remembers the building of the stately "Grant House" which still raises its majestic two and a half stories, on Mount Whitney Avenue, about three miles west of Laton. It was built by Jeremiah Clark, in the year 1879.

During the time of his employment with Poley Heilbron & Company, Mr. Nidiffer was united in marriage to Miss Elizabeth Canaday, originally from Sedalia, Mo., where she was born and reared, the event being solemnized on June 4, 1883.

Later on there were several transfers and changes in the ownership of the "Laguna" which we cannot go into in this review: but S. C. Lillis, after whom Lillis station was named, had become interested in the Poley Heilbron & Company concern, and in the early '90s, he and our subject secured a lease on 18,000 acres of the Grant and succeeded to the cattle business, and for the next eight years ran on an average of 6,000 head of cattle on the Laguna. Lillis and Nidiffer branched out, became the owners of 42,00 acres of range land, bought and sold cattle on a large scale, and became the third largest cattlemen on the Pacific coast at that time. After eight years of the Lillis-Nidiffer partnership, Mr. Nidiffer bought out Mr. Lillis' interest in the cattle and lease. He had just brought up 6,300 cattle for the firm, which he had bought in Nevada. He was really in very good financial circumstances at that time, having \$115,000 in gold coin; a 320-acre stock ranch in Madera County, and other property. But four months after becoming the sole owner he met with a severe reverse. The dreaded cattle disease, known as "Anthrax" broke out and took the major portion of his herd. Of the number that survived the scourge he sold 1,600 head for \$5 per head less than he had paid for them at Winnemucca, Nev., from six to nine months before. He suffered a loss of \$63,000. He has remained in business and paid his debts, 100 cents on the dollar, but the loss was a severe blow.

In 1898, there were still other changes in the ownership and management of the Laguna de Tache. Nares and Saunders then became the selling agents for the great English syndicate which owned it. The cattle business was



Floyd L. R. Burkes M.D.

then dwindling before the oncoming agriculturist, dairyman and fruit-raiser on the small irrigated farm, and Mr. Nidiffer himself bought the sixty acres which now constitute his home-ranch. Later he bought forty acres two miles to the north, on Murphy Slough, which he still owns. In addition to this he is leasing fourteen sections of range, in the Coast Range section of Fresno County, a part of this being government range and a part deeded land. He is still conservatively engaged in the cattle business, owning 200 head at the present time, and has been in the cattle business on his own account ever since he bought out S. C. Lillis.

Few men have raised, bought, sold and handled as many cattle as has Mr. Nidiffer. Soon after the Anthrax epidemic he became a buyer for Miller & Lux, and for the next six years bought extensively in Western Texas, Old and New Mexico and Arizona. After that he bought for the J. G. James Company. He has a very extensive acquaintance among cattlemen in Mexico, as well as in the mountain states and in California, especially in the states of Sonora and Chihuahua, Mexico, where he and his former partner were extensively interested.

Reviewing Mr. Nidiffer's career, one is forcefully reminded of Jacob of old, who according to sacred history, kept cattle on ten thousand Judean hills. It would be safe to assert that Mr. Nidiffer would run the revered patriarch a close second if indeed he would not excel him.

Mr. and Mrs. Nidiffer are exponents of the simple life. They observe the old rules and virtues and strive to keep up to the standard of the Golden Rule. They are consistent Republicans and stand for the square deal in business and politics.

FLOYD L. R. BURKS, M.D.—It would be a strange thing if the recent World War did not bring in its wake some decided blessings, and an indication of the advancement of science through human experience is afforded in the return from Europe and the fields of conflict of Dr. Floyd L. R. Burks, the physician of whose surgical skill Fresno had already been proud. His father was William Tillman Burks, a practicing physician well known to old-timers in Fresno, and from association with him the lad inherited his father's bent. Dr. William Burks had married Miss Annie Williams, daughter of Richard and Elizabeth (Cocking) Williams, natives of England who were early settlers of Fresno, and from her superior character the lad Floyd received the most ennobling impulses. He was born at Fresno, on August 4, 1883, and was educated at the local grammar and high schools.

After a pre-medical course of a very thorough nature in San Francisco, Mr. Burks entered Jefferson Medical College at Philadelphia, from which he was graduated with the Class of '08, when he received his M. D. degree. Then he served as interne at the Fresno County Hospital. He joined the American Medical Association, the State Medical Association and the County Medical Society, and opened a suite of well-equipped offices in the Forsyth Building at Fresno, where his fast-increasing practice soon necessitated two skilled assistants. His previous experience for three years as Emergency Hospital surgeon had contributed to that public confidence essential for one wishing to stand as a specialist in such an important field as surgery.

In April, 1918, Dr. Burks made application for a commission in the medical department of the United States Army, and reported for service on July 31. Then he was made lieutenant, and sent to Camp Kearney; after which he was ordered to Camp Shelby, in Mississippi, to join Evacuation Hospital No. 33. In September, he was promoted and commissioned captain, and was sent overseas in November. He was fortunate in having service at Rimau-court Base Hospital center, and then at Vichy. On completion of his services there, he requested his discharge in France; and this having been granted him by the authorities, he went to England to study at the leading hospitals, after which he returned to Fresno and resumed his practice.

In San Francisco, Dr. Burks was married on September 2, 1911, to Miss Adelaide Granz, also a native daughter of Fresno, whose father was Herman Granz, a prominent viticulturist of the county. She and her husband are members of the Eastern Star. Dr. Burks was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M. when he was twenty-one; he belongs to the Fresno Chapter, R. A. M.; Fresno Commandery, Knights Templar; Fresno Consistory of the Scottish Rite; and Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco. His public-spirit and his interest in civic and social affairs have associated him with such organizations as the Commercial Club, the Chamber of Commerce, the University Club and the Sunnyside Country Club.

W. H. SHAFER.—Among the men who have been instrumental in the development of the county's irrigation projects, W. H. Shafer is known as a man who has ever had the best interests of the community at heart. Born at Stockton, San Joaquin County, Cal., March 15, 1861, he is a son of John Shafer, who was born in Bedford County, Pa. His grandfather, Abram Shafer, was a contractor on the old Government Pike, the military road from New York to Chicago, Ill., before the advent of the railway, and was identified with the development of the country west of the Alleghanies. He was a Pennsylvanian, as was also his great-grandfather. The Shafer family were German Lutherans who sought refuge in America from persecution under the benign wing of William Penn, because of their religious views and love of political freedom. Mr. Shafer's father, John Shafer, was among the influx to California in 1850, journeying down the Ohio River and up the Missouri River to St. Joseph, Mo., where he and four or five other sturdy young men outfitted and crossed the plains to California with ox teams; all the available mules and horses had been purchased by earlier argonauts. Arriving in California Mr. Shafer sought his fortune in the placer gold fields. Owing to ill health and failure to make a stake in mining he abandoned that business and became a wood contractor, taking contracts to furnish fuel for the steamers on the Sacramento River. He cleared the land, sold the wood and planted the cleared land to vegetables and orchard and soon established a good trade for his products. He built up a commercial business, established a fresh vegetable market at Stockton and continued to raise vegetables on his cleared land, selling his own produce and that of others.

Mr. Shafer was married at Stockton to Mrs. Matilda Fish, a native of Michigan, of English and Scotch ancestry. Her mother's maternal grandfather, Samuel Roundy, was born in Scotland; the Roundys were pioneers and saw-mill men in the East. In a family of four children Matilda was the oldest daughter. Mr. Shafer's father was a leader in establishing some of the early schools in California. He built the first school house near Isleton, Sacramento County, before the school district was organized; going down into his own pocket for the money, he purchased the lumber, worked himself and hired others, doing this to fill a much needed want, which was demonstrated at that period in California. He became a well-to-do business man of Stockton, and later resided in Sacramento County. In 1869 he removed with his family to Fresno County, Cal., and the family came to Selma in the fall of 1881. In May, 1894, Mrs. Shafer died and Mr. Shafer did not long survive her, for he died in December of that same year.

W. H. Shafer was one of the first schoolboys in Sacramento County; his mother, who had a college education, gave her son his first lessons in reading and writing, and imparted to him a love for scientific knowledge. He was particularly fond of mathematics, civil engineering and surveying. While yet a boy he obtained a practical knowledge of the latter, as chain-boy under J. W. Prentice, surveyor of Sacramento County. He also caught inspiration and enthusiasm from the late Will S. Green, surveyor general of California. Learning from his mother's instructions, attending the public schools, surveying, helping in and around his father's business, he shared the

common experiences of the first generation of California youth and grew up and developed a great liking for the work of the irrigationist and surveyor. He entered Van der Nailen School of Engineering, 24 Post Street, San Francisco, pursued a special course in civil engineering and at twenty was a civil engineer, and early established the old levee grades on the Sacramento River.

Locating at Selma, Mr. Shafer was employed by the directors of the Centerville and Kingsburg Canal. Becoming interested in irrigation here he was soon chosen to superintend the water distribution and the maintenance of the Centerville and Kingsburg Irrigation canal. The first ditch built in Fresno County was the Sweem Ditch; the Fresno Canal was the second ditch, and the Centerville and Kingsburg Irrigation Canal the third ditch. Work on this ditch commenced in the fall of 1877, and water was run as far as Selma in 1878. Mr. Shafer has been connected with some phase of irrigation since a young man, most of the time on the Centerville and Kingsburg Canal. The water right for this canal was obtained January 12, 1876; articles of incorporation were filed May 11, 1877; there were fifty original shares, five of them were paid for in cash and the others were worked out by their holders. This canal is now a part of the vast irrigation system known as the Consolidated Canal Company. Mr. Shafer is resident engineer and has charge of the ditches for Selma and vicinity, his work extending to the laying out, surveying and maintenance of canals, with a supervising oversight and management of the actual work of irrigating the adjacent land. He personally superintends 150 miles of the 220 miles comprised in the Consolidated Canal Company's system. The water for irrigation costs not over seventy-five cents per acre per annum, and is the cheapest irrigation water in the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. Shafer has made this his life work, has attended most of the important irrigation conventions, has appeared before the Legislature and done much committee work in regard to the improvement of irrigation facilities for this section of California. He is an earnest advocate of the Pine Flat project.

It is due largely to Mr. Shafer's efforts that Selma has an excellent high school with artistically grouped buildings and ample playgrounds. He was chairman of the board of High School Trustees during the erection of the Selma high school building. He is the owner of a well-improved seventy-eight acre ranch adjoining Selma on the northwest, upon which he has built substantial buildings including a commodious residence. In his political sentiments Mr. Shafer is a Progressive. He attended the first meeting at Sacramento, September, 1907, of California Progressives and assisted in organizing the Lincoln Roosevelt League. He is a firm friend and staunch supporter of Senator Hiram W. Johnson.

HANS MONSON.—To those who have succeeded in life solely by their own efforts, much credit is due, and of such Hans Monson is an example worthy in every way of the success which has come to him through years of continuous work and persistent efforts to attain his goal, which he has accomplished without help from others.

Hans Monson first saw the light of day on September 25, 1867, on a farm, in the southern part of Sweden. At the very early age of seven years he began working, in the summer time, on a farm where he herded sheep and through all his life time he has never had an idle day. In 1887 he emigrated to the United States and worked on his uncle's farm in Missouri, for nine months. On January 27, 1888, he arrived in Fresno with but fifteen cents as his cash assets, but possessed with a strong constitution, reliable character and a determination to succeed. He soon found work in the vineyards, his first employer being Hector Burness, later he worked for Benjamin Woodward on the Las Palmas Ranch, and afterwards for F. M. Russell.

For a number of years after coming to Fresno he sent a part of his earnings each month to his father and brothers in Sweden. On June 15, 1891, Mr. Monson started to work on the Helm Ranch, located east of Fresno,

and continued in the employment of the Helm family for twenty-five years, serving as foreman of the ranch during the latter years. While employed on the Helm ranch he planted over 800 acres to vines and for five years contracted for harvesting the crop of grapes. Later he purchased eighty acres of raw land in the Helm tract, which he improved by planting to vines, and in 1917 he traded forty acres of this vineyard for his fine new two-story residence, located at 475 Glenn Avenue, Fresno. Mr. Monson still owns forty acres of full bearing grapes.

When Frank M. Helm started his modern dairy in Kearney Park, consisting of registered Holstein cows, Hans Monson took charge of the dairy, in addition to his other duties.

Mr. Monson is a very progressive citizen and greatly interested in all movements that have as their aim the upbuilding of the best interests of the county. It was but natural, therefore, that Robert Lockhead appointed him, in 1916, as road superintendent of his district, which position he still retains. During his term of office he has been instrumental in having a number of cement bridges built as well as several miles of new road.

On February 15, 1895, Hans Monson was united in marriage with Sophia Lindberg, of Fresno, and this happy union has been blessed with five children: Alice, a teacher of music in Fresno and a talented pianist; Oscar, Lillian, Alma, and Harold, who are at home. Mrs. Monson was born at Otvidaberg, Sweden, and is a daughter of Gustav and Charlotte (Odahl) Lindberg. The father died when Mrs. Monson was only fifteen years old. Of twelve children eleven are still living, Mrs. Monson being the sixth child.

Fraternally Mr. Monson is an Odd Fellow, and he is also interested greatly in educational matters, having been clerk of the school board of the Scandinavian Colony for five years.

DAVID CARMI McCLARTY.—One of the old pioneers of the Parlier section, who settled in the country before the Santa Fe built its branch through Reedley and Sanger to Fresno, and who helped in the grading and building of the road, is D. C. McClarty. Public-spirited in the most comprehensive sense of the term, he has taken great interest in the building of the ditches and laterals for irrigation purposes and has watched with intense interest the development of the raisin industry since Mr. I. N. Parlier planted the first large eighty-acre vineyard in this section in 1880. Mr. McClarty championed cooperative marketing and was an able second to such men as Theodore Kearney and Messrs. Butler and Forsythe, in laying the foundation for such efficient agencies of present-day cooperation as the California Raisin Association and the Prune, Peach and Apricot Associations.

Mr. McClarty was born in the Province of Quebec, sixty-five miles east of Montreal, December 23, 1853. His father, David, a brick and stonemason by trade, and the owner of a farm in Canada, was a native of Ireland of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and his mother, Jane (Longeway) McClarty, was born in Canada of French and German extraction. The Longeways were one of the early French families of the Province of Quebec. The family was well-to-do, and his parents lived, married and died in Canada. David Carmi was the youngest child in a family of five children. Nicholas, the eldest, came to the United States and served in the Civil War. George, James Augustus and Jane Augusta, twins, were the other children of the family.

David Carmi's efforts in obtaining a limited schooling were arduous in the extreme. In the rigors of that northern country he frequently walked the two miles to school waist deep in snow. He worked on his father's farm until seventeen years of age, plowing and harrowing with oxen. When seventeen he sought to better his condition, and removed to Salem, Washington County, N. Y., where he worked by the month on a farm for six years.



Charles & Mrs. D. C. McElvarty

During this time Mr. McClarty returned to the Province of Quebec and in 1875 was united in marriage with his betrothed, Miss Annie Niblock, daughter of Alexander and Agnes (Wilson) Niblock. Mr. Niblock was born in Glasgow, Scotland, and when his daughter Annie was an infant six months of age her mother died. Four years later Mr. Niblock married again. Mrs. McClarty had five own brothers and sisters, and three half brothers and sisters. She married at the age of seventeen.

In 1880, Mr. McClarty came to California, locating in Sonora, Tuolumne County, where he worked in the lumber woods and around the saw mills, his wife and children remaining in Canada and joining him later at Sonora, the mining camp. In 1884 he came to Modesto. He was foreman of the G. W. Hopper three-section grain-ranch during the year 1884-85. In 1886 he came to Fresno and purchased his first piece of land from M. J. Church—twenty acres with one acre of peaches on the place. He owned the place a year and sold it in 1887, and then came to his present place, one and one-half miles west and one-half mile south of Parlier. While in Fresno, Mrs. McClarty worked in the old Meade packing-house, the first packing-house built in Fresno. Mr. McClarty's ranch is planted to twenty acres of muscats, five acres to Thompson's Seedless and four acres to orchard. The rest of the property is in yards and raw land.

Mr. and Mrs. McClarty are the parents of two children: Gertrude is the wife of J. P. Hughes, the owner of a forty-acre ranch near Parlier, and they have three children, Emery, Raymond and Ona. Jasper married Dolly Venter, a native of Missouri. He is the owner of a ten-acre ranch four miles south of Parlier and he and his wife have four children, Fay, Jessie, Hazel and David.

In his political views Mr. McClarty inclines to the Republican party, but votes for the man best fitted for the office and whose principles are correct, regardless of party affiliation. He is a loyal supporter of the administration.

In 1918, Mr. and Mrs. McClarty retired to Selma, where Mr. McClarty purchased a place on Washington Avenue, which he immediately proceeded to improve by building a comfortable bungalow where they now live and where the latch-string continues to hang out and to welcome their many old-time friends and neighbors. They are there enjoying the fruits of useful and well-spent lives, and have the satisfaction of knowing that Fresno County is far better fitted for the abode of man than it was when they first came here, and that they have had a worthy part in so making it.

LEW W. CLARK.—While too much praise cannot be given the pioneer settlers of the Golden State, the men who braved the trials and hardships incident to the life of the frontiersmen, and overcame seemingly insurmountable obstacles in laying a sure foundation for the building of this great and glorious commonwealth, yet the citizens of California owe much to the native sons and daughters of these honored pioneers who have taken up the work of development, where their fathers laid their burdens down, and are building both wisely and well upon their sturdy foundations, and are making marvelous developments in all lines of industry, especially in Fresno County.

Lew W. Clark is proud of the fact that he is a native son, having been born in Riverside County, August 8, 1887, a son of Peter T. and Elizabeth C. (Tune) Clark, natives of Ohio and Missouri, respectively, who migrated from Dent County, Mo., to California, in 1886, locating in San Jacinto Valley, Riverside County. P. T. Clark was an extensive stockraiser and agriculturist there for eighteen years, where he leased land. In 1904 he moved up into the San Joaquin Valley and eventually owned 4000 acres in Tulare County, where he was well known as a successful rancher with business-like methods. He met an accidental death, on his ranch east of Orosi, on June 3, 1919. The children of P. T. Clark were: Burt, who is a business man of Fresno; Porta Ethel, Mrs. J. H. Huntoon of Visalia; John, who is engaged in the stock

and commission business in Visalia; and Lew W., the subject of this review, who was reared and educated in Riverside County, where he attended the grammar and high school. After his school days were over he chose for his lifework the vocation of a rancher, a pursuit that, when successfully followed, usually brings independence and affords many opportunities for closer communion with nature, which no doubt Mr. Clark enjoys in the operation of his fine ranch of thirty-one acres, devoted to the growth of oranges and lemons, which he bought in March, 1916, his place being the original Reese ranch, which was one of the first fruit ranches to come into bearing in the Center-ville district in Fresno County. L. W. Clark is an up-to-date and successful rancher whose friends predict for him a still greater measure of prosperity in the future.

On October 14, 1916, Lew W. Clark was united in marriage with Miss Catherine R. Colvert, a daughter of William P. and Catherine (Tice) Colvert. Fraternally, Mr. Clark is a member of Orangedale Lodge, No. 221 I. O. O. F., at Sanger, and Visalia Lodge, No. 1298, B. P. O. Elks.

LOUIS AUGUSTINE.—Louis Augustine was born in Peoria, Ill., 1858, the second oldest of twelve children born to Aloise and Mary (Stiner) Augustine, natives of France, who were successful farmers, who when they retired moved to Los Angeles where the father died, the mother still making her home in that city.

Louis was reared on the farm in Peoria, Ill., and Franklin County, Mo., receiving a good education in the public schools. From Franklin County, he removed to Carroll County, Ark., engaging in farming. Next he went to Indian Territory and in the Cherokee Nation, he followed stock raising until the opening of the Cherokee strip in Oklahoma. He made the run for a claim, and having been over the country he was desirous of obtaining a homestead on Black River with its rich bottom land, but he found even after an early start and swift horse that others already camped there and not caring for other locations, he returned to Arkansas, and there farmed until 1907 when he migrated to California, coming soon afterwards to Coalinga and began work in the oil fields. Later he leased the Coalinga Homestake which he operated successfully until the lease expired. Meantime he had purchased a ranch on Los Gatos Creek and after he quit the oil business he began cattle-raising on his ranch and is meeting with deserved success, his brand being the L. A. combined.

He has always been a Democrat and fraternally is a popular member of the Lodge of Eagles in Coalinga. Mr. Augustine is a very pleasing and affable gentleman who is well known and highly esteemed by a large circle of friends.

ALLEN EVERETT STUMP.—A prosperous viticulturist and one of the most highly respected and substantial citizens of Fresno County, who resides northeast of Parlier, is A. E. Stump. He is a native of Iowa, where he was born in 1869, the son of Jeremiah P. and Elmira (McCloskey) Stump, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, respectively.

Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Stump were the parents of seven children, five of whom are living, four being residents of Fresno County: Paul M.; Mrs. Sophie Zediker; Mrs. Fannie Vance; and A. E., the subject of this sketch. The Stump family migrated to California in 1881. Jeremiah Stump was a rancher of considerable means and ability.

A. E. Stump was reared in Iowa until he was about twelve years of age, when he accompanied the family to California. His education was received partly in Iowa and was finished in the public schools of California. Ever since March 18, 1881, A. E. Stump has been a resident of Fresno County, and has been identified with the ranching interests of the county for many years. He is an expert viticulturist and understands the scientific methods of producing an abundant yield of grapes. He is the owner of forty acres of highly

improved land, where he has lived since 1904, and upon which he has made many expensive improvements, having set out all the trees and vines seen today. His splendid ranch is located one mile northeast of Parlier. Mr. Stump devotes his entire efforts to the one product, raisin grapes. That it pays to specialize is proved by the returns of one season, which netted him \$6,200. His land yields from two and one-half to three tons of grapes per acre.

A. E. Stump was united in marriage with Miss Emma Zediker, on May 10, 1898. Mr. Stump is justly entitled to the high degree of success he enjoys as a prosperous rancher, which he has attained through untiring energy and the diligent study of the details of viticulture. He was one of the members of the original raisin association.

LOT HAMILTON.—The generous-hearted rancher, Lot Hamilton, enjoys with his faithful and hard-working wife a delightful home, where they dispense a liberal hospitality. He was born at Seneca, Crawford County, Wis., on November 13, 1868, the son of Henry Hamilton who had married Catherine Fairfield. His grandfather, Lot Hamilton, was born near Manchester, in Lancashire, England; on the death of his wife he came out to America, obtained work in St. Louis, and then sent back to England for his two sons. These sons, Henry (the father of the subject of this sketch) and James were children by the grandfather's second wife; and being a widower when he came to the United States, he never remarried.

Having thus helped his two sons to come to America, he took up government land near Seneca, and there Henry Hamilton became a farmer. At the outbreak of the Civil War, James enlisted and died in the army service; and later Henry, who married in Wisconsin, entered the Union Army in 1864, and served to the close of the war, after which he returned to Grandfather Hamilton's farm in Crawford County. Several years later Lot Hamilton traded for a larger acreage and at one time he farmed very extensively in Crawford County. In time he sold all his land and made his home with his son, Henry, with whom he was living when he died on January 15, 1905. He was born on March 21, 1812, and was therefore ninety-two years, nine months and twenty-five days old.

Henry Hamilton was born at Nutla in Lancashire, England, on February 3, 1840, and died at the general hospital in Madison, Wis., on July 24, 1915. He arrived in America in 1856 and settled near Seneca, Wis., and he became the father of eight children. The eldest was James, who is mentioned elsewhere in this historical work. Then came Hugh who migrated to California, went back to Wisconsin, and later made a trip to the gold fields in the Klondike; finally becoming a citizen of the Golden State, he married, and died at Newman, Cal., on June 6, 1916, leaving a widow and a step-son. Lot was the third in order of birth. Then came Stephen, a grain-farmer at Courtney, N. D., who married and has a large family. Henry, unmarried, lives at Lot's home. Anson died at eighteen years of age; he was unloading hay on his father's farm in Wisconsin when a whiffletree broke and hit him in the side, and he died from the internal injuries received. Mary, the seventh child, became the wife of Mark Foley, a carpenter and builder of Los Angeles. Sylvia is the wife of Robert Felts and lives at Los Angeles with two children by a former husband, James Compton.

Growing up on the Wisconsin farm of his father, Lot Hamilton was early introduced to hard work, and at home at hard work he stuck until he was twenty-four. He never received a cent from his father's estate; and beginning to work out at the age referred to, he had saved out of his earnings, by the time he was twenty-nine, about \$1,800. Half of this hard-earned money had to be paid out to a doctor for an operation on his right foot; yet eventually the member had to be amputated in 1898 at the West Side Hospital, in Chicago. When he recovered, he went to North Dakota and ran a traction engine for a threshing outfit, and in the fall of 1899 he

removed to Day County, S. D., and there bought land. Prior to that, on July 26, he was married at Boscobel, in Grant County, Wis., to Miss Rose Young, daughter of Alonzo and Caroline (Byers) Young. She was born in Scott township, Crawford County, attended the Boscobel high school, and at eighteen became a teacher, and taught in Crawford County till she was married. She had been left an orphan, for her father died when she was three, and her mother died when she was six. She was then taken by her Grandmother Byers of Crawford County, and brought up. Her father left a farm, and J. R. Hurlburt of Scott Township became guardian to her and an only brother, Henderson Young, thirteen years older.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton bought a grain and stock farm near Webster, Day County, and later Lot Hamilton became a partner with his brother James, and the two brothers farmed on a very large scale, operating some 2,100 acres as a grain and stock farm. Fortune seemed to smile upon whatever our subject now undertook, as if to make amends for what had been previously denied him.

In February, 1910, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton came out to California and bought a ranch of twenty acres at Parlier, which he improved and sold after four years at a handsome profit. In 1914, he removed to his present place and bought the home ranch of forty acres. This he has greatly improved, and in doing so has become a very successful farmer and raisin-grower. Twenty acres are given to muscats, three to Thompson seedless grapes, about three acres to apricots, four acres to Lovell peaches, three acres to Muir peaches, one and six-tenths acres to orange cling peaches, two and four-tenths acres to Wheatland peaches, and the same area to Elberta peaches. The balance of the acreage is dry ground and has been devoted to a building spot. For irrigation purposes alone Mr. Hamilton put in 800 feet of fourteen-inch pipe and now his ranch is unusually well supplied with water. Besides this ranch, one of the finest areas of forty acres to be seen anywhere for miles around, Mr. Hamilton owns other ranches, each of which reflects most creditably upon him and those associated with him in their management.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton are greatly respected by all who know them, and few men deserve more good will than this sturdy character. In November, 1913, he was taken with appendicitis, but he was successfully operated upon at St. Joseph's Hospital in St. Paul, and the following February had sufficiently recovered that he was able to come back to Fresno County. That he was satisfied with what he saw is evident from the fact that he bought land at once, to make California his home.

CHARLES C. PHILLIPS.—In all sections of the world the pioneer is held in honor, but especially is this true in California, where the present generation realizes that the wonderful development of the Golden State, which are so much appreciated now, are due to the indefatigable determination of those brave souls that endured the hardships incident to the transformation of an unknown and sparsely settled region into one of the greatest commonwealths of the nation.

Charles C. Phillips is the son of an honored pioneer who crossed the Indian infested plains with the slow moving ox-cart, in that memorable year, 1849. His father, Bonapart Phillips, was born in Tennessee, in about 1827, grew up there, and becoming enthused by interesting reports of the discovery of gold in California, decided to seek his fortune in the new Mecca. He made the long journey across the plains in an ox-drawn wagon, and after his arrival engaged in mining for a short time. Like many other men, however, he found mining unprofitable and the results uncertain, so he abandoned that occupation and engaged in ranching, locating in the vicinity of Hayward, Alameda County, where he owned and operated 800 acres of land devoted to general farming. Later he went to San Mateo County, and from there down



J. Ridegaray

into Santa Cruz County. In 1860, he married, and six children blessed the union: Edward, and George, both deceased; Jackson; Charles C.; Minnie; and Frank, all living in California. The father, Bonepart Phillips, died in 1895, aged about sixty-eight years; the mother passed away in 1903.

Charles C. Phillips was born in Alameda County, November 29, 1869, but was reared and educated in Santa Cruz County, and had always confined his efforts to agricultural pursuits there until June, 1917, when he purchased his present ranch of 150 acres in the river bottom, east of Center-ville, Fresno County. It is very fertile land, having previously been a vegetable garden but now devoted to grain, alfalfa, prunes, summer crops and pasture. Mr. Phillips is an experienced California rancher and thoroughly understands the best methods of modern agriculture.

The marriage of Charles C. Phillips, in 1896, united him with Rosa V. Morehouse, also a native Californian, and this union has been blessed with seven children: William; Roy; Glenn; Carrie; Wayne; Dick; and Neva. Like all native sons, Mr. Phillips is a public spirited citizen and ready to assist in all worthy enterprises.

JOHN BIDEGARAY.—Through his native ability, perseverance and industry, John Bidegaray has achieved the success which he rightfully enjoys, as one of the leading business men and financiers of Fresno County. A native of France, he was born in the state of Basses Pyrenees, September 26, 1874, the son of Peter and Grace (Grenade) Bidegaray, to whom four children were born, of whom he is third in order of birth. Reared on a farm where hard work was the rule, there was neither time nor opportunity for schooling, although many were the lessons gained through observation and experience, which in after years were an aid to the study of conditions and men in a foreign country.

When but a youth of eighteen, Mr. Bidegaray determined to better his condition, so coming to the United States, and California, in 1892, he stopped first in Huron, Fresno County. From there he went to Coalinga, where he obtained employment on a stock farm. During the next seven years he worked for different stockmen, driving cattle and sheep all over the state. Not only did he gain knowledge of the country during this period, but he learned the possibilities in this line of industry, besides accumulating some capital through hard labor. He had \$2,200 coming to him, but he was able to collect only \$800 of it (the balance he lost), and with this he concluded to enter business for himself.

His first venture in 1899, was a small hotel and store located on the west side of the Southern Pacific Railroad tracks in Fresno. Later, he went into the live-stock business, making a specialty of buying sheep and wool for the San Francisco market. Besides engaging in general farming, Mr. Bidegaray owns many thousand head of sheep, for which he rents thousands of acres of range land on the West Side as well as stubble fields around Fresno, where he ranges his flocks. In 1915 he bought 30,000 lambs for the San Francisco market, and each year since then has largely increased his purchases and sales in that line. He travels over a great portion of the state, buying stock and wool for the San Francisco and Los Angeles markets, and continues to increase and extend his stock industry, until at present he is one of the most extensive individual stockmen in the Valley. His years of experience have made him an exceptionally good judge of stock, and he has established a strong financial standing, being rated as one of the best payers in the Valley.

Aside from his extensive stock business, Mr. Bidegaray has a large general merchandise establishment on Tulare Street. He was the prime mover and organizer of the Growers National Bank of Fresno, of which he is president. He long saw the need of an institution that would make a specialty

of taking care of stock-growers and large land owners, furnishing them funds until they sold their stock or crops. The bank was organized on September 8, 1919, with a capital stock of \$220,000, and was opened for business at I and Tulare Streets that same month.

Mr. Bidegaray's first marriage was to Miss Grace Villanueva who left him one child, John Peter, attending school in San Francisco. His second marriage was to Miss Julia Larrea, a native of Spain, the ceremony occurring at San Jose, Cal. Of pleasing personality, Mr. Bidegaray has many friends who esteem him for his sterling worth, integrity and dependable qualities. A man of energy, enterprise and business ability, he is never idle and in his vigorous way drives his business. He has aided materially in the progress and development of the county and is held in the highest esteem by his fellow citizens. It is to men of his stamp that Central California owes its present wonderful development.

The Growers National Bank of Fresno, of which Mr. Bidegaray was the principal organizer, was organized September 8, 1919, with a capital stock of \$200,000, all paid in, and a surplus of \$20,000, all paid in. Mr. Bidegaray purchased the furniture and fixtures in the former Bank of Italy, leased the quarters occupied by them at the corner of Tulare and I streets for ten years and there the new bank was opened for business on September 25, with Mr. Bidegaray as president.

Mr. Bidegaray has had a most interesting career, beginning at the lowest rung of the ladder he has steadily climbed to the top by his own efforts, acquiring property and stock and establishing a credit large enough to handle the large volume of business he has today. He has never abused this credit and is noted all over the State as the best pay of any stockman. He is very popular with all with whom he meets and has a large circle of friends among all classes with whom his word is as good as his bond. As a man of influence he stands very high.

WM. T. KIRKMAN, JR.—Established Kirkman Nurseries, Inc., in Fresno in year 1906.

Son of W. T. Kirkman, pioneer nurseryman, and Dora Akridge Kirkman.

Family came to Merced from Arkansas in 1888.

Father and son both nurserymen from boyhood.

Parents now living retired life in Pasadena.

Son still at nursery business. Main office, corner O and Tulare Streets, Fresno City.

Mr. Frank P. South, formerly associated with Kirkman Nurseries, was secretary and treasurer of the organization from 1910 until his death in 1917.

F. A. CORTNER.—An excellent illustration of the rewards to be gained through a life of industry, economy, and good management, together with a definite goal in life, is found in the career of F. A. Cortner, the successful horticulturist and viticulturist, who owns and resides on a highly cultivated forty-acre ranch near Del Rey, Fresno County. He was born in Tennessee in 1863, and was reared and educated in his native state, his parents being Alexander and Mary Cortner, both natives of Tennessee. They were the parents of ten children, five of whom are living. F. A. Cortner, the only one who migrated to California, arrived in the Golden State in 1884. He secured employment with Alfred Baird and became the foreman of his 1,000-acre grain ranch, a position he filled satisfactorily for sixteen years. He spent six years working for other ranchers, and by economical habits and judicious management of his financial affairs in due time had saved enough money to purchase a ranch for himself, which he did in 1906. At



He. E. Elder

the time he bought his present ranch of forty acres, the land was in its virgin state. By persistent and intelligent effort he has brought it up to a high state of cultivation and greatly enhanced its value. Nine acres are devoted to peaches, seven acres to muscat grapes, thirteen acres to Thompson's Seedless grapes, and five acres to alfalfa. The ranch is well kept and evidences the thrift and enterprise of its owner. It is conveniently located on the Santa Fe Railroad about five miles southwest of Sanger.

In 1887 F. A. Cortner was united in marriage with Miss Edith Brown, a native of Ohio, and of this union five children were born: Ella, Robert, Henry, May, and Ray. Mrs. Cortner is a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Mr. Cortner is energetic and progressive, a splendid example of what is commonly termed a self-made man, and is regarded as one of the successful and substantial ranchers of his section of Fresno County.

HARLAND E. ELDER.—A farmer blessed not only with a choice ranch of forty acres in the Prairie school district five miles northeast of Fowler, but also with a happy home, where goodness, refinement and goodwill hold sway, is Harland E. Elder, popularly known as Hal Elder, who is also the efficient ditch-tender of the district. As a well-to-do agriculturist he lives on his well-improved ranch, and also serves as superintendent of the Malaga Extension of the Fowler Switch Ditch, now a part of the Consolidated.

He was born in Monroe County, Iowa, on August 23, 1863, the son of Alexander Elder, who had married Mary McKissick, the latter still living at Fowler, seventy-six years of age, although her husband died in 1918, almost eighty-one years old. Both grandfathers, that is John Elder and William McKissick, were born in the north of Ireland, and both grandmothers, Esther Elder and Grandmother McKissick, were born in Scotland. Alexander Elder was an Ohioan, and his wife came from Indiana. They were married in Iowa, for Grandfather McKissick had moved out from Indiana to Monroe County, Iowa, before the Civil War, and the ceremony took place in that county just before the outbreak of the war. Alexander Elder farmed there and enlisted in Company A, Thirty-sixth Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and served through the last two years of the war, being wounded at Mark's Mill, Ark. After the war he resumed farming in Iowa. In 1890 he moved with his family to Fowler, Cal.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Elder had six children, five boys and one girl. All are living except the third eldest, Perry Elder, who served as deputy sheriff under Jay Scott in Fresno County, and who died in Fowler, in 1901. The five living are: Thomas, a farmer of Holt County, Nebr.; Harland E.; Carrie, the wife of W. W. Hicks, of Orosi; J. F., who lives two miles northwest of Fowler; and Charles, who is southeast of that town.

Harland E. attended the common schools and Amity College, at College Springs, Iowa, and grew up in that state until he was twenty-one. Then he moved with his parents to Holt County, Nebr., and there for seven years raised stock. He went back to Tingley, Iowa, and married Miss Carrie Brown, a childhood companion. She is a daughter of the Rev. William Brown of the Presbyterian Church, and they remained near her home for a year.

In 1900, Mr. Elder came to Fresno County and rented a wheat-ranch at Caruthers, on which he farmed. Thence he moved to Kern County and raised stock for twelve years. When he came back to Fresno in 1903, he had only \$500, and with that he made the initial payment on his home-place of forty acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Elder have had five children: Eula B., a graduate of the Fowler High School, died when she was twenty-three years old. Lucile is a graduate of the same institution and the Fresno State Normal, and she now teaches in the seventh grade in the Fowler grammar school. Hazel and Helen, twins, are both graduates of the Fowler High School, and Helen is a graduate of the Fresno Normal and is a teacher in the sixth grade of the Fowler

grammar school; Hazel married Dale F. Butler and they reside at Orland, Glenn County. Harold Charles is a graduate of the Fowler High School, and also had one year at the State agricultural college at Davis. He enlisted in June, 1918, in Headquarters Company, Eighty-first Field Artillery, and was honorably discharged in Camp Knox, Ky., having spent two months in France.

Mr. Elder has served five years as trustee of the Prairie School District, which employs four teachers. He was ten or twelve years in Kern County, where he was a trustee of the school board. In national politics he is a Republican. He is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., the California Associated Raisin Company, and gives his aid to all worthy projects that have for their object the advancement of Fresno County.

N. C. CHRISTENSEN.—A splendid example of what good character, high intelligence and unflagging industry will accomplish in a comparatively short time is afforded by the rancher, N. C. Christensen, and his excellent wife, the prosperous peach and raisin growers residing half a mile east of Selma on the Canal School Road, where they own a well-improved and finely cultivated fruit ranch of thirty acres. Mr. Christensen is a Dane, and so is his sturdy wife; and they are both proud of the fact that they came from families of working people.

For some time in Denmark, they worked for small wages and with little prospects of getting ahead; and when an opportunity offered, they sailed to Australia, and there engaged in grain farming for several years. When another opportunity presented itself, they again crossed the wide ocean and pushed west as far as Dakota, settling on a farm in the territory near Dell Rapids in Minnehaha County—near where now stands Sioux Falls, S. D. After eight years of considerable hardship, hearing of the promised land in the Golden State, they came to California, in 1892, and settled at Selma, where they have prospered. By hard work, and paying close attention to their interests, at the same time that they wasted no time as to other folk's business, they have not only raised a large family of children, but have become well-to-do. All the children, too, are now married and highly respected.

Though a man of but few words, Mr. Christensen is a virile and philosophic thinker, and, being well read, takes an active interest in the political issues of the times. He realizes, however, that much of his success is due to his faithful helpmate, who is a woman of clear intellect and great force of character, and who never failed him in his most strenuous days and now enjoys with him the fruits of an industrious and consistently conservative life.

Mr. Christensen was born at Mou, Denmark, on February 1, 1854, where he was brought up in the state church of Denmark and attended the public schools. His father, Christen Christensen, was a blacksmith, while he also rented and cultivated a small piece of land in Denmark, where the father was married to Anna Christine Jacobsen, a native of the same locality, and they had three children: The eldest, Ole C., died in Denmark, while the next-born, Shoren C., lives in that country, and the subject of this sketch, Nils Christian. At seventeen he hired out to work by the year at farm work, and at twenty he was married to Juliana Sørensen, who was born near Hjöring, Denmark, and is a daughter of Sören and Martha Marie (Hensen) Nelson.

Mr. and Mrs. Christensen went to Australia from Denmark, arriving at Queensland with two children and about ten shillings, and some clothing, but without the ability to speak English, and for a while suffered great privations. After five and a half years of raising corn and potatoes, they came to the United States. They have had eight children. Christian, born in Denmark, married Harriet Jessie Nicol, and is a rancher residing near Selma; Annie K. married Milton Bigelow, another rancher near Selma, and she died, leaving three children, Grace E., Louise E. and Eunice; Marie married Alton Bigelow, missionary to the Philippines, and died and left three children,

Harriet, Mildred and John H.; Martha is the wife of Noah Jacobsen, a rancher near Selma; Marcus married Lulu Williams, and is ranching in the vicinity of the same town; Alfred J. is another rancher near Selma who married Anna Donald; Elmer Adolph is the postmaster at Selma, and married Lucy Sweet; and Walter C. married Sophie Sørensen, and is a grammar school teacher near Modesto.

Mr. and Mrs. Christensen are members of the Danish Baptist Church of Selma, and are consistent Christians. Their religion is a matter of everyday strength and consolation, for they can see where a kind Providence has led them. They are now living comfortably, in their new bungalow home, built 1918-19, at 2222 Keith Street, in Selma, and are sincerely esteemed by all who know them.

MRS. GERTRUDE MANEELY.—A very estimable lady, whose family is creditably associated with the pioneer history of California, is Mrs. Gertrude Maneely, a native of St. Louis, Mo., and the daughter of Nathaniel Kelly, who was born in Dublin, Ireland, and who came alone to America and New Orleans when he was only seventeen years of age. There he began clerking, and in time became a merchant at Seguin, Texas. He next removed to St. Louis, Mo., where he clerked for Crawford & Co.; and leaving their employ and that state, he returned to Texas and again established himself as a merchant at Dallas. In Houston and at Waco he also, at one time or another, had stores.

In 1896, Mr. Kelly removed to San Francisco where he was again busy as a merchant, and at the beginning of the new century, when more than ever Central California was awakened to its natural destiny, he came to Fresno County and started in business at Herndon. Later he bought Mr. Yount's store at Barstow, and, with his long and varied experience, he was able to make of it still more of a general merchandise establishment than that district had ever before enjoyed. In 1917, at the end of the year, he sold out and retired, conscious of having both merited and won the good wishes of his patrons and friends. Mrs. Kelly was Sarah T. Mansfield before her marriage, and is a native of San Antonio, Texas. She was left an orphan at five years of age, but was fortunate in being reared and educated in her native state. She is the mother of two children: Gertrude, who married John Maneely, a rancher at Barstow; and Lillie, who is Mrs. Smellie of Madera.

Gertrude Kelly came to California with her parents, and was educated at the famous convent of St. Joseph at San Francisco. She was married, at Fresno, first to James Emery, a native of Ohio, who came to California in the boom period of 1888, when he was twenty, and for a while was in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, leaving that system to assume a responsible post offered by the Fresno Irrigation and Canal Company, at Empire. There, for sixteen years, he was in charge of their ditch, and a better superintendent the company never had. In 1909, Mr. Emery embarked in viticulture and bought eighty acres at Barstow which he greatly improved. He took pleasure and pride in his work, and continued to operate his ranch until his death, on January 13, 1917. During the last seven years of his life, which he devoted to farming, he had eighty acres, twenty-five of which were devoted to an orchard of peaches, and twelve acres to a vineyard of muscat and Thompson grapes, while considerable of the land produced alfalfa.

Thirteen months after Mr. Emery's death his widow became the wife of John Maneely, a native of Canada, whose interesting life story is elsewhere given in some detail in this work. As a practical, progressive woman of important affairs, who has shown exceptional executive ability, Mrs. Maneely belongs both to the California Associated Raisin Company and to the California Peach Growers, Inc.

A. CLIFFORD SHAW.—A native of Annawan, Henry County, Ill. A. Clifford Shaw was born on July 10, 1880, the son of Emery E. Shaw, a native of Terre Haute, Ind., and a grandson of Jonathan J. Shaw, a pioneer of Henry County who became a large farmer. Emery Shaw was also a farmer, and five or six years ago, having sold out, he retired to life in town. In February, 1896, he came west and located at Fresno, later leasing a vineyard at Fowler. Once more he lived at Fresno and still later, on Whites Bridge road; and eventually he died at Fresno on May 15, 1902. Mrs. Shaw was a favorite in Columbus, Ohio, where she was widely known as Annie Davison; and she died at Los Angeles, on October 24, 1908, the mother of six children, two of whom are still living.

The second oldest of these children, and the only son living (two having died in Illinois), Clifford was among the four that reached California. Burpee died on November 19, 1901; Mattie is Mrs. Ruggles of Fresno; and June, who became Mrs. Baker, died in San Francisco. Clifford attended school in Illinois until he was fifteen, and in February, 1896, he came with his parents to Fresno. For six and a half years he worked in the T. J. Hay vineyard, where he was made foreman, after which he continued in Mr. Hay's service in Squaw Valley, on a stock ranch, remaining there until the latter died. He remained another six months, in fact, working for Mrs. Hay.

When he came again to Fresno, Mr. Shaw bought forty acres in the Barstow Colony, effecting the purchase in August, 1907, and having improved the property in the usual manner, he built a residence and set out sixteen acres of Thompson seedless. He joined the California Associated Raisin Company and worked for the general progress of California viticulture. In June, 1918, he sold it at a big advance and then purchased his present forty acres one mile south of Barstow, which he is devoting to raising alfalfa, and setting out Thompson seedless, and where he has built a comfortable residence and also suitable ranch buildings.

While sojourning at Visalia, Mr. Shaw was married to Mrs. Dollie (Hogan) Butler, who was born near Reedley in this county, the daughter of J. W. Hogan, a Reedley pioneer; and they have had one daughter, Anna May. Mrs. Shaw had two children by her former marriage, David and Eva.

Thoroughly at home in, and in sympathy with the institutions of California, Mr. and Mrs. Shaw take an active part in all movements for the bettering of the community, the state or the nation, and in particular they loyally supported the government in the World War. Mr. Shaw is an Independent Republican; while in social life he participates in the activities of the Woodmen of the World, Manzanita Camp, No. 160.

HANS J. HANSEN.—An enterprising, reliable and successful viti-culturist, who thoroughly appreciates the unrivaled opportunities of Fresno County, is Hans J. Hansen, who came to California at the beginning of the nineties, bringing with him, as part of his capital, some of the best traditions of Denmark's intelligent and progressive agricultural folk. He was born at Kolding, in Jutland, Denmark, on May 30, 1865, the son of Hans Bang, an industrious and extensive farmer who later, with equal success, applied himself to carpentry and building. There were two children in the family, and of these Hans J. was the younger. Having attended the public schools of his neighborhood, he learned the miller's trade and followed it for some time, after which he took to teaming. At the end of two and a half years, he enlisted with a Copenhagen artillery regiment, in which he served seventeen months, or until he was honorably discharged, in the fall of 1885, when he took up some work at which he continued until he was twenty-three years of age.

Crossing the Atlantic in the spring of 1888, Mr. Hansen stopped in New York State and found employment at farming, butchering and in a brickyard. Two years later he located in Fresno County, bought some mules, and went in for teaming, and later he tried his hand at farming. After another

two years, he leased some land west of Fresno, which he sowed to grain. In 1896 he returned to Denmark for what proved to be a two-year visit; and while there he ran a hack. There, too, he was married to Miss Christene Nielsen, a native of that country and section.

In 1899 Mr. and Mrs. Hansen crossed the ocean and the continent. Choosing Fresno County as their home, he leased land at Academy, and in the operation of the ranch ran two big teams and a combined harvester. The returns for the labor and investment, however, were insufficient to reward and encourage, as he sold wheat for less than one dollar a sack, and barley still lower; and after a while he quit the venture altogether and disposed of his outfit. After this he bought 160 acres from the San Francisco Savings Union in Redbank, and engaged in farming there. He kept that land two years and then sold it. Then he bought his present place of forty acres in the Enterprise Colony—at that time a stretch of hog-wallow and the rawest land—which he improved, planting alfalfa and setting out wine grapes. He also built a fine residence and sunk a well. The property is under the Enterprise Ditch and has proven a fine investment. He has there three acres of peaches, a vineyard of twenty-seven acres of muscat, Malaga, Zinfandel and Thompson grapes, and the balance sown to alfalfa. Intensely interested in every movement that advances the welfare of the rancher generally, Mr. Hansen has long been active in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company.

There are four children in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Hansen: Amelia is at the Clovis High School, and Anna attends the Fresno High; while Mary and Edward study in the grammar schools of the neighborhood. The family attend the Lutheran Church. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen support the policies of the Republican party. Mr. Hansen is a popular member of the Woodmen of the World at Clovis, and he and his circle supported in every way possible all the activities that helped to win the great war.

S. L. POLITO.—Fresno is fortunate in having so talented a musician and instructor in music as S. L. Polito, teacher of the plectral string instruments, harmony and theory of music. Mr. Polito was born at Vacaville, Solano County, Cal., September 4, 1881. He is of Italian descent, his father, Louis L. Polito, being a native of the sunny clime that has produced so many talented musicians of world-wide reputation. This young native son of California was five years of age when his parents brought him to Fresno. Here he received his first schooling, and for about three years attended the old White school on Fresno Street, which in those days was practically on the bank of the old mill ditch that ran through the town. At the age of nine he was taken to San Francisco, and at about that time began the study of music, which he continued until he developed professionally the playing of the banjo, mandolin and guitar. He is a finished musician, and his twenty years of musical experience, as well as his diplomas and certificates, bear testimony to his ability as a musician and teacher of music.

To Mr. Polito, more than to any other one person in this vicinity, is due the credit for the popularity of the plectral string instruments. He introduced the banjo in the dance orchestra in Fresno, and also the now popular Gibson mandolin and guitar. These instruments are in vogue musically and are well represented in all musical gatherings and in different instrumental combinations throughout the country.

As a teacher of the banjo, mandolin and guitar, Mr. Polito has been remarkably successful, having established a large clientele of pupils on these instruments, a number of whom he has developed to the rank of professional musicians. He is the author of several original musical compositions, and is a member of the American Guild of Banjo, Mandolin, and Guitarists, the American Federation of Musicians, the Musical Alliance of the United States, and several other musical organizations.

REV. JENS JOHANSEN.—One of the pioneer ministers of the San Joaquin Valley, Rev. Jens Johansen has accomplished much good work in his chosen field, and is now rounding out his years of service as pastor of the Church of Our Savior, located in Central Colony, Fresno County and of the Danish Lutheran denomination. Born in Denmark, October 16, 1851, Reverend Johansen came to America with his parents, in 1860, and was reared in Missouri and Illinois. He lived in Arkansas during the Civil War period and has vivid recollections of those stirring and thrilling times, though he was but a lad at the time.

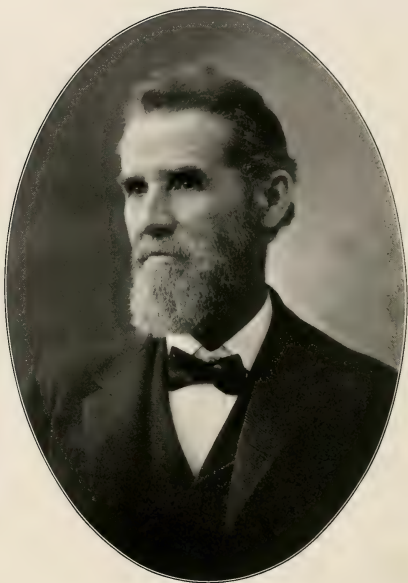
After finishing his early schooling, Reverend Johansen attended Decorah College, at Decorah, Iowa, for six years, and also spent three years in Germania Concordia Theological Seminary, at St. Louis, Mo. His first call was a dual one; he being assigned to two congregations, namely: the Trinity Church in the city of St. Louis and also the Webster Groves Church, which was in a suburb of St. Louis, where he remained five years. He was next called to Franklin County, Iowa, and held his charge there for six years.

In 1891 Reverend Johansen received his third call, and came to Fresno County. In early days of the county's development he was a circuit rider, holding services at Rolinda and Fairview school districts. He also had charge of Missions at Newman, Modesto, Los Banos and Waterford, continuing this branch of his work until 1903. With unremitting zeal he worked early and late in pioneer days in the valley, taking hard long drives by team through the undeveloped valley and plain, with but little to lighten his burdens.

The Church of Our Savior is one of the oldest in the valley, founded in November, 1879, by Rev. L. Carlsen, of San Francisco. In 1881 Rev. Dietricksen took charge, and in 1891 Reverend Johansen was called to the charge which he has most ably filled since that year. Sunday, July 19, 1916, he celebrated his twenty-fifth anniversary as pastor in Fresno County, on which occasion the members of his church presented him with an automobile, the membership comprising fifty families. He was for six years secretary of the Pacific District of Norwegian Lutheran Synod, which was organized in 1893, when he became secretary, remaining in the office until 1899.

Reverend Johansen was married in Albert Lee, Minn., to Hannah Larsen a native of Denmark; her death occurred in 1912, after a full and useful life, during which she had been of inestimable help to her husband in his life work. Their children are as follows: Laura, wife of Roy Cole of Fresno, was born in St. Louis, Mo., July 9, 1882; Amelia, wife of Harry Ericksen of Fresno, was born in St. Louis, August 20, 1884; Theodore, born in Iowa, September 23, 1886, married Marion Damkier; Clara, died at one year of age; Martin, born in Iowa, October 10, 1891, married Blanch Goodrich, and is the owner of a ranch near Lone Star; Hannah, born in Fresno, November 15, 1892; Helen, born in Fresno, February 14, 1895, now the wife of E. G. Cartwright, a rancher on Orange Avenue, Fresno; Ernest, born in Fresno, March 8, 1898, with the Union Pacific Railway in Fresno. During early days in the county Reverend Johansen bought four lots on South J Street, and erected his present home, one of the first to be built in that section.

CHARLES H. TRABER, M.D.—There is no profession to which a man devotes himself which brings him into such close relations with his fellow-man as does that of the conscientious physician. Among practitioners of this class the name of Charles H. Traber, M.D., of Reedley, stands out in bold relief. He is a native son of California, born in Mendocino County, January 4, 1874, a son of John W. and Anna (Kane) Traber, mention of whom is made on another page of this work. John W. Traber is one of the best-known educators in the county, and has taught longer than any other of its teachers.



Caleb Harman



Sarah C Harman

Reared on his father's ranch and educated in the public grammar and high schools of Fresno County, graduating from the latter with high honors, Charles H. Traber began teaching school at an early age and for ten years followed that profession in Fresno County. During all those years his one great ambition was to become a physician. Not having the means by which this ambition could be satisfied, he went to Alaska in the hope that he would be able to make enough to put him through medical school; but his venture was a failure, although he remained in Alaska from 1898 until 1902. He returned to Fresno County again and resumed teaching, saving every dollar that he could, and in 1913 he was able to enter the Chicago College of Medicine & Surgery from which institution he was graduated four years later with the degree of M.D. He later returned to his native state and opened an office at Reedley, and so successful has he been that he derives a practice from many miles around.

In 1910 Dr. Traber was united in marriage with Miss Clara Brose, a daughter of Samuel Brose; and to this union one daughter, Marjorie, has been born. The doctor is a member of the County and State Medical Societies, and fraternally is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is always in favor of the best schools obtainable. During his career as an educator he served for a time as a deputy in the superintendent of schools' office at Fresno. Dr. Traber is a self-made man, a successful physician and a true friend. He and his wife have a wide circle of friends throughout this section of the county.

CALEB HARMAN.—Two decidedly intellectual pioneers, whose lives, animated by lofty moral ideals, have made them benefactors to many, and whose influence for good will be felt for generations to come, were Mr. and Mrs. Caleb Harman, long so fondly esteemed by the early settlers of Fresno County. He was born in Morgan County, Ohio, on September 20, 1836, the son of John Harman, whose folks came from Pennsylvania and were undoubtedly related to that branch, the Harmons, later distinguished in journalism and the law, in the history of Ohio, and which has given a governor to that state. In Ohio, John Harman married Miss Hannah Stephens, a lady whose ancestors belong to the best of South Carolina stock. In their union there was one of those happy blendings of Northern and Southern virility and culture that have contributed something definite and valuable in the elevating of American society.

Caleb attended the public schools in Ohio until he was twelve, when his family removed to Van Buren County, Iowa, after which he continued his schooling in his new home district. He also grew up on a farm in the pioneer days of Iowa, and there he farmed for himself. During the Civil War he served in the Home Guards.

In 1874 he came to California from Iowa, and spent the first winter at Santa Rosa, coming down to Fresno County the next spring. This whole section was then a desert-like wilderness. He went out to the Mendocino Settlement, however, and bought land; he encouraged and helped to build the Church Ditch, which was the first ditch for irrigation in that part of Fresno County, became a stockholder and secured a perpetual water-right in the canal. People said that he must starve to death, for there was nothing but horned toads and jack-rabbits that could live there; yet the Church Ditch proved the making of the country.

On October 18, 1861, at Milton, Iowa, Mr. Harman was married to Miss Sarah Carr, daughter of Jonathan and Margaret Jane (Weatherington) Carr, both of whom came from Virginia families, migrated to Ohio, and as early as 1853 removed to Iowa. Sarah was born near Columbus, Ohio, on February 25, 1838, and Jonathan Carr, who was a farmer, died in Illinois, when she was only seven years of age. Mr. Harman was an intelligent, industrious and large-hearted man; and his wife was in all respects his equal, and assisted to make the Harman home the center of abounding hospi-

tality and good-cheer. They had four children: Lizzie became the wife of O. W. Rudolph, of Santa Barbara, where she died in 1903 and left four children, all still living in California; Jennie is the wife of Dr. J. E. Shafer, of Berkeley, and they have two children; the third child is C. E. Harman, while Daisy, the younger daughter, resides at 737 Wilson Avenue, Fresno.

Interested in politics only so far as they aided in the upbuilding of the community, Mr. Harman, although an active Democrat all his life, never sought nor held public office for any benefit for himself. He was school trustee in the Mendocino district for many years, and was a worker for good schools. He donated the site for the Mendocino school, and also the land for the original plot of the Mendocino cemetery near Miley Switch on the Santa Fe Railway. And he planted the first vineyard in the Mendocino district.

Having been advised to seek a change of climate, Mr. Harman rented out his large ranch of 480 acres and moved down to Lompoc in Santa Barbara County, and then in 1905 he and his wife removed to Berkeley. There Mrs. Harman died on March 9, 1907, and Mr. Harman passed away on June 2, 1915. Both rounded out such careers of exceptional usefulness that it may truly be said of them—"their works do live even after they have departed; wherefore they have not gone, but in their works live on and on."

STEPHEN GULER.—It is no wonder that Stephen Guler likes California, and the Barstow district of Fresno County in particular, for since coming here and getting well started, he has accomplished much both for himself and the state of his adoption, with which he first became associated over a decade ago. He was born at Monbiel, Graubunden, Switzerland, on March 21, 1877, the son of Hans Guler, an experienced farmer of that section who brought his wife and four sons to the United States in 1884. He located near New Rockford, Eddy County in the James River Valley, in what is now North Dakota, and homesteaded 160 acres which he devoted to grain-farming; and assisted by his boys he attained such success that he bought more land, coming in time to own about 1,120 acres, all used for grain-farming; and before Mr. Guler left the scenes of this world, he had the satisfaction of knowing that he had brought his farm to a high state of cultivation, and had thus enriched the country which had extended to him and his family a cordial welcome. Mrs. Guler, who was Catherine Grass before her marriage, and who also was born in Switzerland, still resides in North Dakota, the beloved mother of six children, each of whom has "made good" in some field of activity.

The third oldest in the family, and the only one in California, Stephen Guler crossed the stormy Atlantic when he was seven years of age and soon after began his American schooling in Dakota. From a lad also he began to work on his father's farm, and he continued to break the prairie with the use of oxen until as late as 1893, when he and his neighbors used horses instead. In 1905, Mr. Guler dissolved partnership with his brothers and struck out for himself. He bought 320 acres in the same vicinity, three miles from New Rockford, the county seat, and worked hard to improve the land, devoting the ranch to grain and stock. He farmed there for four years, and in that time demonstrated what Swiss agriculture, under the favoring natural conditions, could do with American soil, seed, and cattle.

Curious as to the much talked-of Pacific, Mr. Guler in 1909 made a trip to California; and coming to Fresno County, with which he was fascinated from the beginning, he bought twenty acres in the Barstow Colony. The fall of that year found him a resident of the Golden State, and he was not long in buying twenty additional acres near by. He began to raise fruit, and for some years he ran a dairy, twelve miles from Fresno, and so he grew alfalfa for his own use. The balance of his land he laid out as an orchard and a vineyard, where he had ten acres set out with Thompson seedless grapes,

seven acres planted to peaches, and four acres given up to apricots. He uses a team and a tractor, and has a fine pumping-plant, so that his ranch, which is under one of the best of California ditches, is very well irrigated. Scientific in his temperament and methods of farming, and possessing artistic taste, Mr. Guler has developed a ranch that many persons come to see and that certainly is model in more than one respect.

While in North Dakota, Mr. Guler was married to Miss Anna Christ, a native of that state, and the daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Kobel) Christ, born in Arcadia, Wis., and Switzerland, respectively; they were pioneer farmers in Eddy County, and the father died there, while the mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Guler have three children: Margaret, Elvin, and Nina, all favorites in the circles in which they move.

Those who know Mr. Guler find in him an affable, kindly man, filled with the social spirit. It is not surprising, therefore, that he is popular among the Odd Fellows, with whom he is affiliated through Lodge No. 343, I. O. O. F., at Fresno. He is also an ever welcome member of the Fraternal Brotherhood. In politics Mr. Guler is a Socialist, and with his keen interest in the welfare of society, he has served enthusiastically as trustee of the Barstow district. He belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company, and is a representative from the Barstow district. He is also a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc.

GEORGE CHRISTIAN.—Born at Tardekopka, Russia, on September 22, 1865, George Christian is the son of Peter Christian, a farmer who died there. He had married Sophia Reinhart, also a native of that place, who is still living. She is the mother of six children, all living—three boys and three girls; and our subject and one sister are the only ones in America.

The third in the order of birth, George was brought up at the old home, educated in the public schools, and from a boy learned farming. He also learned to speak, read and write the German and the Russian languages. When twenty he began work at the wagon-maker's trade, and a year later he entered the Russian Army. As a member of the 160th Infantry of the Fortieth Division, he served in Pense a year, and was honorably discharged.

Then he completed the trades of a wagon-maker and a cabinet-maker, and for a while worked alone at his trade. He next formed a partnership with his brother Gotfried in wagon-making, and at the same time engaged in farming. They manufactured about forty wagons a year, and they also made buggies.

At his native place, Mr. Christian was married on January 30, 1886, to Miss Marie Bell, who was born there, a daughter of George and Alexandra (Wulf) Bell, farmer folk, both of whom are now dead. The fourth eldest in a family of seven children, she is the only one that came to America and the only one now living.

After awhile, feeling the irresistible lure of America, Mr. Christian sold out and brought his wife and two sons to Fresno, where he arrived on April 14, 1900. He started to work on a ranch, and then went into a brick yard; and in 1905 he commenced to learn the carpenter's trade, at which he worked under different contractors.

In 1904 Mr. Christian first undertook to contract and build in Fresno, and ever since that date he has here followed this line of activity, although twice he has been engaged in mercantile lines. For eighteen months he was a partner in Kohl & Christian, general merchandisers, when he sold out and returned to contracting; and then he bought a store on F Street with Jack P. Christian, and together they set up as merchants. Later he bought out his partner and managed the store alone and then, in 1913, he sold to Fred Scheidt and George Hoepner. Returning to his trade, he has busied himself as a first-class contractor and builder to the present time. He draws his own plans, and thus more nearly succeeds in carrying out the exact ideas and wishes of

those for whom he builds. As a Republican, he is influential in the councils of that party. In 1912 he made a trip back to his old home, visiting his mother and relatives and friends.

Three children of Mr. and Mrs. George Christian are still living. Jacob, a sergeant in the United States Army, is over-seas in France; he served for three years in the National Guard, was mustered out, and when war was declared, he hurried to enlist, and is now with the One Hundred Fifty-seventh Infantry. Fred Christian is at home, and Mollie is attending the high school. The family attend the Free Lutheran Cross Church, and Mr. Christian is president of the congregation.

LEANDER J. ARRANTS.—An inspiring story of enterprise, reverses, toil, sacrifice, and final, deserved reward is that of Leander J. Arrants, the popular and efficient superintendent of the Fowler Switch Canal and a representative of one of the substantial families of the South, who hails from Scotch ancestry, as his folks were among the earliest settlers of Eastern Tennessee, having first pitched their tents in what is now Sullivan County more than 125 years ago. His paternal grandfather, William Arrants, was born in Sullivan County in 1802 and lived to be eighty-two years old. His father was William Henderson Arrants, and his mother was Polly Ann (Reilly) Arrants. All of the Arrants were true to their native state during the troublous times of the Civil War, and his father fought in the Confederate Army throughout the Rebellion. Two children were born from the union of William Henderson and Polly Arrants: Leander J., the subject of our sketch, and Mollie, who is now the wife of G. L. Hicks, a farmer and stockman in Sullivan County, Tenn.

The husband of Leander's mother, before she married Mr. Arrants, was Andrew Geisler, who served in the same company with Leander's father, and fell in battle, leaving one child, a daughter, Hettie, now the wife of J. A. Boy, a school teacher and farmer in Sullivan County. After Mr. Geisler's death, Mrs. Geisler married Mr. Arrants, and she died when Leander was only three years old, and through a second marriage he has had nine children. Mrs. Maggie Arrants is still living and makes her home with her son Walter on the twenty-acre ranch three miles west of Selma.

The nine children are: Walter, just referred to; Myrtle, the wife of Walter Woods and living in Sullivan County, Tenn.; William, who resides in the same county; Samuel, living two and a half miles west of Selma; Conley, living four miles north of Selma; Addie, the wife of Mr. Dempsey, a farmer in Sullivan County; Bessie, who is single and lives with her mother and Walter; Emily, the wife of Walter Huff, farming four miles north of Selma; and Annie, the wife of Arthur Armstead, a teacher at Fresno.

Born in Sullivan County, Tenn., on August 19, 1870, Leander Arrants was reared on a farm in the eastern part of the State, and where the educational advantages were so limited that he was able to attend school but three months in the year, during the winter. Being the oldest boy he had to work very hard, and so he remained at home until he was almost twenty-one. At that time a circumstance—the residence of a relative on the Pacific Coast—had a determining influence on his life and destiny. A third cousin, John G. S. Arrants, also a Confederate soldier in the Civil War, had become, as the pioneer grocer at Selma, a prosperous business man. He encouraged young Mr. Arrants to join him, and the latter arrived at Selma on April 21, 1891. He went to work on the ranch of H. H. Dewitt, and served there eight months at twenty-six dollars a month. All in all, he continued working out for others for three years.

Mr. Arrants then rented some forty acres planted to alfalfa, bought a team and some hogs. The hog cholera, however, took most of his herd, and then the price of pork fell to four cents, as against six cents when he bought. He had paid \$400 cash rent, and at the end of the year had a team of horses, but with a good-sized debt hanging over him.

He then took to teaming and rented from the Selma Bank another ranch of ninety acres, for \$150 per year. He bought more hogs, continued his teaming, herded his hogs, cooked and batched, and worked sixteen hours per day, making two eight-hour shifts; and he had an experience never to be forgotten.

Perhaps it was just that particular experience which caused him to think of getting married, for he needed help—help of the kind he was soon to secure. He rented an additional ranch of eighty acres, the J. A. McCleary place, upon which there was a house, with a forty-acre vineyard; and in the meantime, on May 30, 1897, he married Miss Sarah Stephens, the daughter of B. F. and Emily (Stapp) Stephens. The latter is now deceased, while the father lives with Mr. Arrants at Selma.

That year Mr. Arrants made some money, and with the proceeds he bought thirty-eight acres south of the Selma city limits, and also five acres of unimproved land, all of which he improved and disposed of to advantage. His next purchase was the twenty acres, all in trees and vines, to which he has added a beautiful family residence which he built in 1904—one of the finest in that section near Selma. He has bought the twenty-, sixty- and seventy-acre ranches in five different purchases, improved them, and owns them all to this time. The twenty acres where he lives was a tract of stubble when he bought it.

On the sixty-acre ranch, there are twenty acres of peach trees, most of which he has grubbed out on account of getting too old, and replanted to vines. On the seventy acres there were twenty-five acres in vines. All his lands are now in full bearing; and he has Emperor, muscat and Thompson seedless grapes, with the latter predominating, seventy-five acres in all being devoted to that variety. He also has three acres of prunes and eighteen acres of peaches. The two ranches nearest Selma are rented to his son; while the seventy-acre ranch is leased by a Japanese tenant.

Mr. Arrants is a member of the California Raisin Growers' Association, as well as of the company of California Peach Growers, Inc. He and his relative, the late G. S. Arrants, were among the prime movers for the betterment of the fruit-growers of this valley. They were leaders in the first co-operative effort which resulted in the organization and establishment of the Cooperative Packing House at Selma, which later became the Selma Fruit Company, Inc., with fifty or sixty stockholders, and which in time sold out to the California Raisin Growers' Association.

Eighteen years ago Mr. Arrants became canal tender for the Fowler Switch Ditch, and he has served acceptably ever since. This ditch has lately become a part of the property of the Consolidated Canal Company. The Consolidated Canal Company embraces the original Church system, the Fowler Switch Canal, and the Centerville & Kingsburg Canal. Mr. Arrants tends, therefore, about eighty miles of canals.

Mr. and Mrs. Arrants have been blessed with three children: Eugene is a single farmer who lives at home and rents the twenty- and sixty-acre ranches; Maud graduated from Selma High School, class of 1918, and is now taking postgraduate work, and Ralph is in the grammar school. Mrs. Arrants is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, while Mr. Arrants belongs to the Woodmen of the World and the Foresters.

GEORGE F. BICKEL.—A highly-esteemed pioneer, who is also widely known in Fresno County because of his many years of successful enterprise here, is George F. Bickel, the efficient and popular superintendent of the Herndon Canal, owned and operated by the Fresno Irrigation and Land Company. On May 26, 1889, Mr. Bickel first came to Fresno County; nor has he at any time since regretted the step that he then took, which afforded him the privilege of helping to develop one of the fairest portions of one of the greatest of all these United States.

Born at Troy, Mo., on February 9, 1865, a date made historic by the landing of the Federal forces at James Island, S. C., George enjoyed the usual public school education of that section and period; and having an aunt and a sister in California, he came west in his twenty-fourth year. Arriving in Central California, he entered the employ of his uncle, J. H. Clark, the vineyardist, and later took service with Messrs. Cook & Langley, working in their packing-house, where he became foreman of one of their departments. He was next appointed by Mayor Cole to the Fresno Fire Department, as driver of Engine No. 2, when there were only three paid men in each house, and three different fire-houses, and there he continued from 1891 until 1893, or the close of the administration.

For ten years following Mr. Bickel engaged in the hack business, and had a stand in front of the Grand Central Hotel on Mariposa Street, but in 1902 he sold out, accepting a position for two years with the Fresno Traction Company as conductor. His prompt and willing service made him many friends, but when his present engagement was offered him, he could not do otherwise than resign to accept the advancement. For three years he was with the Fresno Canal and Irrigation Company, now the Fresno Canal and Land Company, in charge of their old Enterprise ditch. Resigning, he engaged in the butcher business at Wheatville, and when he sold out there, he removed to Oakland where he was with the wholesale drug house of O. P. Downing & Co. When he left this employ, it was to become a special officer for two and a half years for H. H. Hart.

On his return to Fresno, in 1911, Mr. Bickel again accepted an appointment for canal work with the Fresno Canal and Land Company, at Barstow Colony, in charge of the Herndon Canal. He was made superintendent, and was given the considerable responsibility of the works from the Arizona Colony to Barstow, with all the numerous side ditches as well. Since then he has resided at Barstow, and so has naturally taken an interest in local educational affairs that led to his serving as school trustee there.

At Fresno, Mr. Bickel was married to Miss Mabel K. Bunney, who was born in Amador County, Cal., and they have one daughter, Esther L. He belongs to the Red Men of Fresno, and also to Fresno Lodge, No. 186, of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is also a member of Manzanita Camp, No. 160, of the Woodmen of the World, of Fresno. In national politics Mr. Bickel is a Democrat, and in former years he was active in the county conventions.

WILLIAM F. BARNETT.—A dairyman who is a good judge of cows and in every respect thoroughly understands his business, and who is always interesting as a conversationalist, is William F. Barnett, who came to Fresno County soon after the middle of the nineties, and who has the honor of having sown the first alfalfa grown at Centerville. He was born in Georgia in 1860, the son of Rial Barnett, a native of Alabama who served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. When that unfortunate conflict was over, he removed to East Tennessee, and near Knoxville he became a very successful planter. In 1890 he removed to Oregon, to which state his son, W. F. Barnett, had already gone; and there, honored by all who knew him, he resided until he died. Mrs. Barnett was Nancy Patterson before her marriage; she, too, was born in Alabama, and she died in Kansas.

The second youngest of seven children, and the only one now living, the subject of this sketch was brought up in Tennessee on a farm, and there he attended the public school. He remained home until he was seventeen years of age, and then, removing to Indiana, he accepted employment at Newport as a farm laborer. Later he engaged in agriculture on his own account, and in 1884 removed to Hutchinson, Kans., locating a preemption of 160 acres in Pratt County. He bought adjoining land until he had 480 acres, which he sold in 1888. He then settled in Multnomah County, Ore., and contracted to build bridges for a railroad company, but at the end of



Mr. & Mrs. Barnett - Lora Barnett

two years he located a homestead on the Nehalem River, Clatsop County, where he improved a farm and started a dairy. The same foresight and care that had always characterized Mr. Barnett's operations, here resulted in such continued success that his many friends were surprised when he again sold out.

In 1896, Mr. Barnett had come to Fresno County and, two years later, having disposed of his Oregon ranch, moved here permanently. The first year he had a vineyard and orchard east of Fresno, but in 1897 he located at Centerville and there formed a partnership with an aunt, Mrs. Darius Reese. While thus occupied, he sowed the first alfalfa seen at Centerville; and having well irrigated the land, his labors were crowned with success. He started a dairy, developed it until he had ninety cows, and built a creamery—the first thereabouts—and otherwise expanded. During this time, he was one of the organizers of the Sanger Creamery; he built the first creamery there, and was its first president.

Soon after Mr. Barnett dissolved partnership, he sold his holding and located in Fresno. Here he engaged in plumbing and pipe-fitting under the firm name of Barnett, Rock & Co.; but at the end of two years he disposed of that business to again take up farming. He leased a dairy ranch on East Avenue, and managed it, with some twenty cows. Out of this grew the Fresno Cooperative Stock and Dairy Company, of which Mr. Barnett was president and manager. They leased a ranch on the slough, twenty-three miles southwest of Fresno, and there they had nine sections of upland, with 700 acres in alfalfa. They milked 200 cows and raised high-grade cattle. This dairy business the company continued until 1911, when it sold out and dissolved the concern.

Mr. Barnett then came to Barstow and leased an alfalfa farm; and there for three years he engaged in the dairy business. In 1914, however, he saw the opportunity to buy his present place, and now he has thirty-two and a half acres near the Barstow school-house. He has three acres of peaches, and the balance planted to alfalfa, under the Herndon canal. He has a finely-appointed dairy of forty-seven milch cows, mostly of the Holstein breed. With eight others, Mr. Barnett organized the Fresno Cooperative Dairy Association for the purpose of running a truck to deliver their products in Fresno. Mr. Barnett owns the truck, and the venture has been successful.

In Kansas, Mr. Barnett was married on February 22, 1887, to Miss Cora Moorhead, a native of Indiana, the daughter of Henry D. and Elizabeth (La Rue) Moorhead. Mrs. Barnett's parents were natives of Ohio, who migrated to Indiana and farmed there; her father served in the Civil War in an Indiana Regiment. Mr. and Mrs. Barnett have a daughter, Bessie.

Mr. Barnett was a member of the local board of education in Kansas for a couple of terms, and was also twice constable. Popular everywhere, Mr. and Mrs. Barnett are especially so in the circles of the Fraternal Brotherhood, of which they are members.

S. W. WALTZ.—A successful, highly respected farmer and viticulturist, who has a fine ranch property and knows how to take good care of it, is S. W. Waltz, who came to Fresno County in the great boom year of 1887. Thirty years before, on February 20, he was born at Vevay, Switzerland County, Ind., the son of Joseph Waltz, a native of Pennsylvania, who settled in Indiana and grew to be one of the prosperous farmers there. He married Burry A. Courtney, a daughter of the Hoosier State, a woman of character and amiability, who became the mother of ten children, seven of whom are still living. Joseph Waltz died in 1885, and Mrs. Waltz died later.

The youngest in the family, and the only one in California, S. W. Waltz was brought up on a farm and attended the public school. When he was twelve years of age he began to do farm work in earnest, driving the teams

and helping get in the harvest; and after the death of his father he continued to work on the home farm and to assist his mother, until she died.

Before coming to California, Mr. Waltz was married in Indiana to Miss Australia Chittenden, a native of that state, who had relatives here. On his arrival he went to work in the vineyards, and in 1891 he bought his present place of twenty acres in the Scandinavian Colony, six miles northeast of Fresno, which he improved in many ways. He built a residence and barn, set out a fine vineyard of Malaga, Thompson, Sultana and wine grapes, and planted some of the land to alfalfa. The ranch is under the Gould Ditch, and profits from almost perfect irrigation. Mr. Waltz takes a keen interest in all that pertains to his departments of agriculture, and is one of the livest members of the California Associated Raisin Company.

In February, 1892, Mr. Waltz' wife breathed her last. Later, Mr. Waltz married a second time, his bride on this occasion being Mrs. Nellie (Hender) Trevathan, a native daughter born near Solbyville, Merced County. By her Mr. Waltz has had two children—Harry Roy and Dorris. By her first marriage Mrs. Waltz had one child, Clifford Trevathan, who resides near Kernman. Mr. Waltz belongs to Fresno Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F. He is also a member and Past Chief Patriarch of the Encampment and belongs to the Canton; and both Mr. and Mrs. Waltz are members of the Rebekahs.

Public-spirited and ever interested in all that makes for the improvement of the neighborhood, and particularly for the advancement of the cause of education, Mr. Waltz has for three years served as a school trustee of the Scandinavian district. In national politics he is a Republican, but in local administration and civic improvements he knows no party lines and endorses and supports the right man for the right place.

AUGUST KRUSE.—Despite his natural love for the country of his birth, August Kruse believed that he saw in America still greater freedom and opportunity, and so crossed the seas and threw in his lot with California. He is the son of Henry and Frederika Kruse, well-known farmer-folk of Westphalia. His father began to farm as a boy, and when he was ready to ask for the heart and hand of Frederika Brinckmann, a member of another of the substantial families of that section, he had a farm to go to, and one of which he could well boast. Both father and mother lived to be considerably past the proverbial four score years, and when they died they left their children that most blessed heritage—a good name.

Like his brother Henry, August Kruse was born at Enger, in Westphalia, but four years later, in 1863, being the next to the youngest in the family. He went to school until he was fourteen, getting all the hard drill of the local schools and enjoying the usual benefits, and then, for three years, he worked at farming in that vicinity, mastering as thoroughly as he could the various stages of agriculture as practised in Germany. When he was seventeen, he concluded to come to America, and having so decided, took passage and soon arrived in New York. He caught a glimpse of the American metropolis, and then made his way west to Chicago, later coming on to Nebraska, where, at Fremont, in Dodge County, he labored as a farm hand and, in order to acquire English more rapidly, attended school part of the first winter.

In 1886, Mr. Kruse made his first trip back to the old homestead in Germany; and such were his descriptions of the advantages and possibilities of life in America that his two brothers, Henry and Gustav, together with August Halemeier and ten others, all friends, came with him on his return to Nebraska. He continued farming there with success, laid aside money, and in 1892 made a second trip back to his old home, later returning to Nebraska.

In 1899 Mr. Kruse came to Fresno County, Cal., where he bought fifty acres of land on National Avenue. It was raw land; but he leveled and



Aug. Kruse

staked it, setting out vines and caring for them, and at the same time working for several seasons in the Bon Ton Winery. Finally, when he had greatly improved the place, he built his large residence and barns. He had now a model farm, which he operated until 1915, when he sold it at a highly complimentary figure, making a good profit by the transaction. In 1917 he bought his present ten acres near Clovis, and there he has since made his home, caring for his vineyard of Malagas and muscats. The same year that he bought this place he made a trip to Arizona and there purchased some 600 acres of land near Pearce, some way out from Yuma.

Mr. Kruse is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and takes a live interest in general local affairs. He is a loyal member of the German Lutheran Church.

W. R. CARTER.—An enterprising ranchman, whose fine place reflects most creditably his scientific and practical knowledge of viticulture and horticulture, is W. R. Carter, a native son hailing from the Bay Metropolis where so much of California history was made, and who is much interested in the preservation of local history. He was born on Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, on May 20, 1873, the son of Bernard Boucher Carter, who first saw the light in London, England. When only twenty-one the elder Carter left England and went to sea; and for fifty or sixty years he followed a sea-faring life. Finally he came round the Horn in a sailer to San Francisco, and for a while he remained here; then he sailed from the Golden Gate on a long voyage around the world. He was steward on a government transport, and at the time of the Russian-Japanese war, he was held in Yokohama. He followed the sea until he quit to engage in the bakery business on Van Ness Avenue, but his love for the ocean drove him forth again, and he continued to sail until he had to retire. Now, in his eighty-ninth year, he resides with his son, W. R., where he was for some years engaged in viticulture in Fresno County, and on the ranch where his family lived when he roamed the sea. Mrs. Carter was Margaret Isabelle Gill before she became the wife of B. B. Carter, and she was born in Ireland. Twenty years ago she died in Fresno, the mother of three boys and four girls, of whom two daughters are now dead. W. R. Carter is the second oldest.

Having resided in San Francisco until 1881, W. R. then came to Fresno, where the parents bought twenty acres in the Scandinavian Colony. They improved the land and made it into a vineyard, and while this was going on, the lad went to school in the district. From a lad, therefore, he was fortunate in learning how to care for a vineyard ranch; and remaining home he was able to take care of the estate and manage it for his mother. When the proper time came, however, he pushed out for himself, and having learned both viticulture and horticulture, he leased a vineyard near Kearney Park and, striking a lucky year, he cleared \$1,500 at the first stroke. After this success, he wanted a place of his own; and so he bought twenty acres in the American Colony, ran it as an orchard for eight years and during that time cleared it of debt, after which he sold it for a thousand dollars in advance of the price that he had paid.

At Kearney Park, Mr. Carter was married on February 3, 1900, to Miss Kittie Burnham, who was born in Coffey County, Kans., the daughter of F. M. and Lucinda (Foote) Burnham, who came to California in 1890 and had a fine vineyard at Kearney. Mr. and Mrs. Carter have two children: Margaret Lucinda and Gladys Verna.

After this, Mr. Carter became superintendent of the Pleasant Valley Stock Farm near Coalinga, owned by A. G. Wishon & Son. He continued in that responsible position for a year, but then returned to business for himself. In 1912, therefore, he bought twenty acres of alfalfa in the Barstow district and engaged in the raising of that commodity and stock; but successful as he was in the double undertaking, his desire was still ungratified. He preferred, above all, a good vineyard, and a good vineyard he soon set

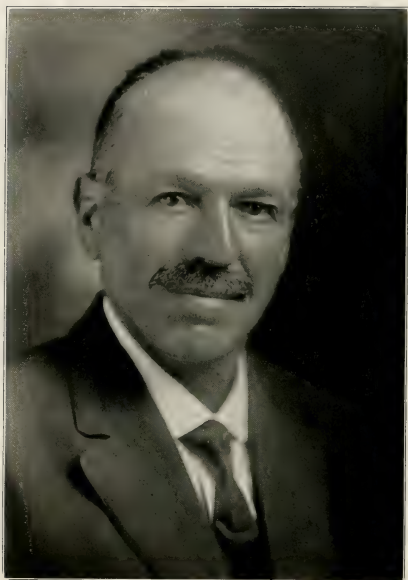
about acquiring. A year later, having sold his stock and alfalfa ranch, he bought his present place of forty acres one mile west of the Barstow school, and there, with his usual enterprise, he is now engaged in horticulture and viticulture. Most of his property is set out to Thompson seedless grapes, but he has fifteen acres of peach trees, and in addition he leases twenty acres of Thompson grapes. All in all, Mr. Carter has one of the really fine ranches in the neighborhood, which makes it natural that he should be a stockholder in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and in the California Associated Raisin Company.

Always interested in the cause of popular education, Mr. Carter has served for four years as a member of the board of school trustees of his district, and for the same length of time as clerk of the board. Both Mr. and Mrs. Carter lend their aid in any local movement for the welfare of the community generally; and both are members of the Fraternal Brotherhood.

PETER OTTO NELSON.—A viticulturist who is a hustler and has always made a success of whatever he has undertaken, and who is not only absorbed in his own plans but is greatly interested in the development and prosperity of Fresno County, is Peter Otto Nelson, a native of Oeland, Sweden, where he was born on February 6, 1870. His father was Nels P. Peterson, a farmer there. Peter was reared a farmer's boy, and attended the public schools; and he continued to work on a farm, acquiring a most practical training in the usual lines of agriculture, until he was seventeen, when he made the decision to leave Sweden and make his way as best he could to America and far-famed California. He crossed the ocean and the continent in safety, and reached San Francisco, in December, 1887. From there he went to Greenwood or Elk, where he entered the employ of the L. E. White Lumber Company. Later he worked in the shingle mill of the same concern, and after six months secured a position in the service of Jim Poland, on Salmon Creek, where he remained for two years. He then went to Caspar and began work for the Caspar Lumber Company, where he became an expert sawyer, and for fifteen years he was a valued employee of this firm. While there he served as a trustee of the Caspar school district. On leaving the Caspar interests he accepted a position as sawyer with the Albion Lumber Company, which he continued to fill for four years.

In 1907, Mr. Nelson removed to Fresno County with the ambition to engage in viticulture; and for that purpose he bought a twenty-acre vineyard in the Granville district. He secured some three-year-old vines, cared well for them, and added others; built a fine residence and several additional outbuildings; and made many desirable improvements. Later he bought twenty acres adjoining his property, and now he has a fine pumping plant and a home place of forty acres, set out to muscat, Malaga, Empire and Thompson Seedless grapes. He also has a twenty-acre vineyard of muscat vines, a half mile to the south on Ventura Avenue, and owns besides forty acres of land in the Kutner Colony on McCall Road. This he is setting out to vineyards of grapes for shipping, and to figs. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and of the California Peach Growers, Inc.

While at Caspar, Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Louise Anderson, a native of Oeland, by whom he has had nine children. Walter is in the United States Service; Ellen, now Mrs. Parker, lives on Belmont Avenue; Archie is at home, as are Mabel, Ruth, Harry, Harriette, Arna and Roy. The family attend the Lutheran Church. In matters of national politics Mr. Nelson is a loyal Republican, and has done good service in party lines; but he is one of those citizens who cast party politics to the winds when local issues are at stake, and who support the best men and the best measures. He has done good service as a trustee of the Granville district. Fraternally, he is a member of the Eagles.



Pierre Boucaille

GEORGE DANIELSEN.—A successful horticulturist and viticulturist, and a man who has been very active in the development of his section of Fresno County, inasmuch as he has owned several places and through his intelligent efforts converted them from unimproved to productive ranches, is George Danielsen, who has been a resident of Fresno County since 1893. He was born in that portion of Denmark which was wrested from the little nation by the Germans. He is the son of George and Mata Danielsen, who were the parents of eight children: Helen; Christina; George; Annie; Andrew; Ros; Enger; and Catherine. Seven of the children and the parents came to this country, and the father and mother passed away in Fresno County.

George Danielsen first saw the light of day on February 2, 1868, being born under the German flag, a fact which he thoroughly regrets, as he is now a loyal citizen of the United States of America, having been naturalized in 1894, and liberally contributes his bit to the furtherance of all enterprises to build up county, state and nation. In 1885 he immigrated to the United States and after his arrival located for one year in Michigan and later moved to Texas. He joined the United States regular army and after serving one year he was discharged because of his being a minor. In 1893, he came to Fresno County, Cal., where he soon purchased sixty acres of land and besides owned an interest in eighty acres. He improved part of each ranch and when they were in good condition he placed them on the market and sold them, then he purchased his present ranch, which is a highly improved place both in land and buildings. In 1915, he built an attractive and comfortable residence which is an ornament to the neighborhood. His ranch is located four and one-half miles south of Sanger and is devoted to apricots, peaches, vines and other small fruit. He is a stockholder in both the Raisin and Peach Growers Associations.

In 1902, Mr. Danielsen was united in marriage with Miss Mary Nielsen, the daughter of S. Nielsen of Denmark, and this union has been blessed with two children: George J. and Caroline G. An agriculturist who lives in close touch with the true source of all things good, and sees His wonderful power manifested in nature, is George Danielsen. He and his family are members of the Danish Lutheran Church.

PIERRE BOUCAU.—A very successful viticulturist, whose studious habits, years of hard work and self-denial, foresight, and willingness to invest in order that he might reap have at last been rewarded with a comfortable independence, is Pierre Boucau, who was born near Pau, Basses-Pyrénées, France, on June 3, 1862, the son of Pierre Boucau, a native of that same region and for over a score of years a soldier in the French army. He served with distinction at Sebastopol, and also went through the campaigns in Mexico; and only at the expiration of twenty-one years did he return to his home. In that vicinity he became the superintendent of a large farm, and having rounded out a very useful life, he died in 1882. His devoted wife, who was Rose Mendau before her marriage, was also born in the neighborhood, and there she died, the mother of seven children, of whom our subject is the only one living.

Pierre Boucau was fortunate in being reared in sunny France and there acquiring both a knowledge of and liking for certain lines of work; for when he was only eight years old he began making his own way on farms. His disadvantage was his limited chance for schooling; but this handicap he has made good, in part, since coming to America. For a year he also served in the French army; and when he had secured an honorable discharge he left France and Europe to cross the wide ocean.

In December, 1882, he arrived in Fresno, and went to work on Birkhead Ranch, dividing his time, for four and a half years, between ranching and working in town. At the end of that period, he bought 1,700 ewes for sixty

cents a head; but the next spring, pasturage being scarce, he started to cross the mountains and was caught and penned in by a snow-storm, and lost every sheep that he had. This gave him a serious set-back, but it by no means destroyed his courage or prevented him from pushing forward again. He bought five acres in the Easterby Colony and began to try his hand there at viticulture. He also worked for others, and took contracts for pruning. This outside service extended over a period of twenty years, and in that time he was in the employ of John Dickie at his Margherita vineyard, and at St. George's vineyard, where he sometimes had charge of seventy-five hands. He bought more land, until he had a vineyard of forty acres, which by hard work he made one of the attractive properties on Tulare Avenue.

In 1905 Mr. Boucau bought his present ranch of sixty acres. It was raw land when he took hold of it; but he saw there what others had failed to discover, its possibilities for the growing of the grape, and with his experience of years in the service of others he set it out with vines. Now he has five acres sown to alfalfa; but the most of the acreage is devoted to grapes, and most of the grapes grown are for wine. He also owns twenty acres adjoining, and this he purposes making of equal or greater value by wise husbandry. He has supported every movement tending to develop the state's industries, and has been particularly devoted to the interests of the California Associated Raisin Company, of which he is an active member. One investment has fostered another, and he also owns valuable property in Fresno.

Mr. Boucau has been twice married. In 1888, at Visalia, he was joined to Miss Eulalia Huntas, who came from the same town in France that claimed her husband's birth; and by her he has had three children: Marie, now Mrs. Domesta, who lives near Caruthers; Rosa, or Mrs. Ellis, residing in Kern County; and Victory, now Mrs. Valentine, of Fresno. Mrs. Boucau died in March, 1906, on their home place, in which she had come to take such a fond interest. While he was on a visit to his old home in France, some eight years ago, where he remained amid the scenes of his youth for ten months, he married a second time, choosing Leontine Changuett, a native of the same vicinity, for his wife.

As far as he has been able, Mr. Boucau has familiarized himself with American ways, and few if any of his fellow citizens surpass him in a love for his adopted country and a live interest in its political welfare. Generally, he votes with the party which, in his independent view, he believes most likely to accomplish the greatest good; but in local politics he never considers party, and only regards the man and the issue of the hour.

IVY WATSON SHARP.—A viticulturist who has been successful because of his varied experience in all departments of his field, and because he studies ordinary, every-day details, is Ivy Watson Sharp, the superintendent of the Rogers vineyards, where he has some 700 acres under his supervision. He was born in Shelbyville, Tenn., September 17, 1878, the son of William Sharp, a native of Scotland, who sailed from that land for the United States when he was six years of age but lost his parents on the voyage, and so arrived in Tennessee an orphan. There he was reared by his grandmother Sharp, and in time he married Mary Raby, a native of that state, of Scotch descent. The father is now dead, while the mother resides on the old farm near Petersburg, Tenn. There were ten children in the family, one of whom, Clifford, was accidentally killed in the San Francisco railroad disaster in 1917.

The second eldest in the family, Ivy W., was reared on a farm and attended the public school. After the death of his father, who passed away while the son was in his twentieth year, he continued to help his mother on the farm. Later he went to Alabama; but finding it so malarial there that his health suffered through the change, he looked for relief in California. On September 3, 1903, he arrived in Fresno. For a while he was employed in the Wallace vineyard in Temperance Colony, and there he learned the art of setting out and propagating vines, and caring for them generally. He liked

the work and for nine years continued with the same ranch, then resigning to associate himself with the Sperry Flour Mill in Fresno.

As early as 1906 Mr. Sharp made his first trip back to Tennessee, and five years later he returned there again, this time bringing his mother, two sisters and a brother to Fresno, where the mother lived until in 1917, when she returned to Tennessee. The pleasure she derived from this filial act has ever since given him the greatest satisfaction.

Following his engagement with the Sperry mill, Mr. Sharp became a motorman for the Fresno Traction Company; but at the end of six weeks he resigned and accepted his present post as superintendent of the Rogers vineyards. He makes his headquarters on the ranch near the Belmont and McCall roads, and from there goes out to survey the three ranches for which he is responsible. In 1917-1918 he set out about 200 acres in a new vineyard, and he has also grafted 125 acres to different varieties. In 1919 he bought twenty acres of unimproved land, a part of the Waverly ranch.

At Fresno, in 1912, Mr. Sharp was married to Miss Vertie Arnold, a native of Shelbyville, Tenn., and a lady of talent and charm; and by her he had one child, a daughter named Mary Louise. Mrs. Sharp died in March, 1915. Mr. Sharp belongs to Fresno Lodge, No. 343, I. O. O. F. In politics he is a Democrat.

ERNEST T. WILSON.—A self-made man who has become an influential leader, is Ernest T. Wilson, the longest resident in his vicinity in the Barstow section, who returned to his native home in 1907 only to appreciate more than ever his California home and all the advantages of Fresno County. He was born on May 3, 1878, in Ralls County, Mo., the son of J. Henry Wilson, a native of that state, who is still a prosperous farmer near New London. He had married Margaret Farrell, another Missourian, who is also happily still living, the mother of seven children, six of whom are spared to her.

The second oldest of these, Ernest T. is the only one in California, and his success in recent years is due in part to the good grounding he received in the public school of his neighborhood, and the practical training that was his on his father's farm. By 1895 he began to work at agriculture for himself, but hearing that the extreme West afforded better opportunities, he moved to Wyoming in 1899. Eight months of life and work there, however, led him back to Missouri, but convinced that California had something to offer that he had not yet discovered, he came West once more, and in October, 1900, reached Fresno County.

He was fortunate in having here a former friend, J. F. Myers, foreman on the Sharon estate, and for eighteen months he worked there under him in the dairy. Then he engaged with Myers & Emery to farm for grain and for a year took charge of their ranch; and having given entire satisfaction, he put in a second year in the same place. He was next in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad, pumping water at Kerman, but tiring of the loneliness of the place at that time, where he saw only the depot and the section house, for three and a half miles round about, he quit and came to Barstow district.

Here Mr. Wilson bought from Ben Epstein thirty-two and a half acres of raw land along the San Joaquin River, and set out six acres of orchard and five acres of vineyard. He put in alfalfa and continued the development for three years; and then he sold his place at a profit. He next bought his forty acres in the Barstow Colony, and soon made a fine orchard and a vineyard. He had fifteen acres of alfalfa, and engaged in dairying for some years. Seven acres of peaches and twelve acres of vines made a picture decidedly pleasing to the eye. In 1918, he also bought twenty acres on Valentine and Church Avenues in the Madison district, which he set out as a vineyard. On the forty-acre tract he built a residence, made all the needed improvements in yard and other buildings, and after creating a valuable property he sold

it at a big profit in the spring of 1919, and moved to his Madison ranch where he is improving another vineyard.

In the Empire Colony, Mr. Wilson was married to Miss Ellen Esbjörnson, a native of Fowler, Cal., and the daughter of Ole Esbjörnson, a farmer in the Madison district, and they have had three children: Lewis Henry, Edwin Lloyd, and Ruth Evelyn. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson belong to the Fraternal Brotherhood.

Ready at all times to aid in any good cause for the advancement of the community, Mr. Wilson is a Republican in national politics, and has done good service in raising the standard of civic ideals. He also gives hearty support to the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company.

O. D. LYON.—Perhaps no man in California has done more to induce homeseekers to migrate from the Southern and Mid-Western states and locate in Fresno County, especially that section adjacent to Reedley, than Judge O. D. Lyon. He is a native of West Virginia, where he was born in 1860. His parents, Thomas D. and Mary (Clark) Lyon, migrated to Illinois in 1864 and settled near Bloomington, afterwards removing to Nebraska. Their home was blessed with eight children, O. D. Lyon being the seventh in order of birth. His preliminary education was supplemented by attending the Mount Morris Seminary at Mount Morris, Ill., from which school he was graduated in 1882. In his early manhood he taught school for a while, and afterwards held several important and responsible positions in Nebraska. For two terms he was the county superintendent of schools of Cheyenne County; twice he was appointed postmaster at Sidney, Cheyenne County; and he also served as assessor and deputy county clerk.

Judge Lyon has been very active and enthusiastic in promoting the growth and development of Fresno County since 1904, the year of his coming to Reedley, which was then but a hamlet of seventy-five souls. He is especially interested in the development of unimproved lands and has been actively engaged in intensifying the interest of the ranchers in a more extensive range of agriculture. In this movement he has been successful, but not to the degree of his highest desires. Having been closely connected, in a business way, with both the Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe Railways, he was instrumental in securing special terms and profitable inducements for homeseekers contemplating location in the Golden State. As a result of these arrangements the county of Fresno, and especially the town of Reedley, have made rapid strides in population, and with the growth in population have come its attendant and beneficent results, increased wealth and improved lands. Cultivated ranches are now to be seen reaching nearly to the foot-hills of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Judge Lyon continued in the land improvement business until 1910, at which time he was persuaded by his many friends to seek election as justice of the peace for Reedley. He was elected by a large majority and is the present incumbent of that important office. Judge Lyon is well and favorably known in the county, and is highly respected for his integrity of character.

O. D. Lyon was united in marriage in 1883, with Miss Catherine A. Snavelly, the daughter of M. Y. and Sarah Snavelly. This union was blessed with four children. Myrtle F. is now Mrs. Cree. Ruby C. is Mrs. Caskey. Carleton B. responded to the call of his country and served as second lieutenant and later as captain, in the United States Army. Captain Lyon was honorably discharged in December, 1918, and is retained in the Reserve Corps. He is now again with the Standard Oil Company at Porterville. The other of the four children is Catherine. Fraternally, Judge Lyon is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Woodmen of the World. Religiously, he is an Episcopalian; and politically, he supports the Republican party.



L. N. Mitrovitch

STEPHEN N. MITROVITCH.—Prominent among those Californians by adoption, who worked hard to usher in the horticultural and viticultural era of Fresno County which first assumed importance in the eighties and which since then has become the principal industry of the county, bringing millions annually to the producers, is Stephen N. Mitrovitch, who came to Fresno from his native Jugoslavia, when he was twenty-one years old, and has since then toiled to improve conditions here and to build up the export trade. He was born in Dalmatia, on January 7, 1859, and through his birth and early training, inherited an experience and a fund of knowledge that proved of great value when he took his part in the development of the Golden State.

Arriving just before the great "boom" in California, Mr. Mitrovitch was employed as assistant superintendent by George W. Mead, father of the raisin industry in this State—for it was Mr. Mead who induced the importation of vine-cuttings from Smyrna and the planting of the first vineyards. Later Mr. Mitrovitch suggested that fig-cuttings be imported from Dalmatia and planted as borders around the vineyards, and also that mulberry trees be so brought in and distributed, and soon a few vineyards were enriched by the ever-productive White Adriatic Figs. Among the first vineyards so treated were those of Colonel Forsyth, Logan, John Pugh, Alex. Gordon, Archie Grant, Botler, Denikey's Del Monte, as well as Roeding's vineyard and orchard, and Frank Ball's ranch.

Later, when the raisin vines commenced to bear, both Mr. Mead and Mr. Mitrovitch personally directed the picking and drying of the fruit. About this time, Mead's Packing House was erected at the corner of G and Ventura Streets, and Mr. Mitrovitch superintended the packing and grading of the raisins—then the only fruit-packing in that vicinity; for Mead's was the only packing house in the county until 1888. The raisin industry, however, grew rapidly, and each spring additional vineyards were planted. In 1889 a new departure was made when Mr. Mitrovitch, in response to his home-folks in Dalmatia, received an ounce and a half of silk-worm eggs, and Mr. Mead allowed him the use of the packing-house for the purpose of raising silk and introducing sericulture—for the first time—into this State. In April and May of that year, Mead's packing-house was turned into a real cocoonery, and twelve girls were employed to feed the worms, while two teams were kept busy gathering mulberry leaves, to feed the stock. As soon as the worms began to spin themselves into cocoons, the event was heralded by the newspapers, and thousands of visitors, from throughout the Valley and even from Los Angeles and San Francisco, came to see the wonderful sight. Mr. Mitrovitch produced six hundred pounds of very best raw silk in 1889, but as no one in the United States would buy raw silk cocoons, the experiment was a commercial failure.

In course of time, the young fig trees already mentioned were ready to bear, however small the crops, and naturally Mr. Mitrovitch turned his attention to the fig industry, then in its infancy. He offered to buy Colonel Forsyth's crop, but the Colonel declined to sell, saying that Mitrovitch would greatly oblige him if he would take the fruit away from his vineyard, because the preceding year's crop had caused trouble after the Fall rains, even producing pestilence in his neat vineyard, and declaring that he would soon uproot every tree, and plant shade-trees in their place. Mr. E. Kennedy, the Colonel's northern neighbor, said the same thing. Despite these refusals, Mr. Mitrovitch bought and harvested the fig-crops that year on Kennedy's, Forsyth's, and Egger's vineyard, as well as at John Pugh's, Gordon's, Grant's, Frank Ball's and Botler's.

And here may be related a special chapter of the vicissitudes of the early fig industry in California. Martin Denikey refused to negotiate for his crop of figs on the Del Monte vineyard, stating that he had a man who would

harvest, cure and pack them for him, working on salary. This man, Prof. V. Vlahusich, gathered in the Del Monte figs at a cost of 6 cents a pound, cured them at a cost of $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents a pound, and then packed them at a cost of 5 cents a pound, making a total cost to pick, cure and pack of $13\frac{1}{2}$ cents a pound. They were picked when mature enough to be eaten green, and each picker was furnished with a step-ladder and a specially made basket, and special trays were made for sulphuring and drying them. The figs were picked with difficulty and caution, often under the personal direction of Professor Vlahusich, who even pointed out the figs to the pickers, who brought them into the yard, spread them out, one by one, in symmetrical fashion, with the mouth sky-ward, and the trays were left in the sulphur for twelve hours. While these figs were drying, men went over the trays twice daily, and turned each one over; but as they had not been mature enough when picked, the figs turned pink and dark—a good deal like liver—and they became rocky-dry. The Del Monte production of that year had been consigned by Denikey to John Demartini & Co., commission merchants in San Francisco, at a limited price of 25 cents a pound; while the famous silky Smyrna figs, imported from Asia, were being sold at only 10 cents a pound. A few months after these Denikey figs were on the market, and unsold, they fermented and the dark syrup of figs ran out everywhere; on which account Martin Denikey lost the entire crop, as well as the money spent in picking, curing and packing in a way that no one ever heard of before. On the other hand, Mr. Mitrovitch harvested and packed his figs at a cost of $3\frac{1}{4}$ cents a pound, and he shipped them to Jonas Erlanger & Co., of San Francisco, unconditionally consigned; and they were all promptly sold at the price of the imported Smyrnas—10 cents a pound. The Fresno papers boomed the enterprise, and Mr. Mitrovitch was proclaimed the "Fig King," which title he maintained for many years. Farmers, instead of uprooting their trees, planted more White Adriatics. Especially during four years, when he had no competition, Mr. Mitrovitch packed the figs on each farm where they grew, and in the way in which the celebrated figs from abroad are treated, using no grader, steam or any kind of machinery, and quite unlike the steaming method of the big packing-houses, where the fruit is spoiled both in look and taste. Such was his success, in fact, that when, in 1893, he exhibited his Adriatic figs at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, the AA Gold Medal was awarded to him for the best cured and packed White Adriatic figs, in competition with the world, and later he was awarded the AA Premium Gold Medal by the Midwinter Exposition in San Francisco.

Serious competition, however, began in 1893, when certain persons bought from Mr. Mitrovitch the part of the crop injured by the first rain in the harvesting season—a lot of some twenty tons, which he had condemned and abandoned, claiming, when they made the purchase, that they intended to use them for hog-feed. Just prior to this, Mr. Mitrovitch had erected his fig-packing house on Mono, near H Street, and as it was a novelty in the town, it was visited by many persons, including those who made the aforesaid purchase. A few days later, some girl packers quit their job, together with a man overseeing the work; and they were immediately employed by the new competitors, who opened a supposed "carpet-cleaning shop" and there packed the "hog-feed" for the fig market. Even the boxes and the ribbons were imitated, and the output was surreptitiously smuggled into San Francisco by the great "Borax Smith mule team" passing through Fresno and supposed to be engaged in another business. These inferior figs were offered the San Francisco public at 35 cents a box of ten pounds, while Mitrovitch's figs were selling at \$1 per box. The doctored-up figs, it was reported, could not be sold at any price and the board of health ordered that they be dumped into the harbor or returned to Fresno for real hog-feed; but it is declared that the manipulator cleverly saved himself from total

loss by palming off the cargo as an imitation of chickory and a substitute for coffee.

For a good while Mr. Mitrovitch held seventy per cent. of the total fig products hereabouts, and had bought land and planted his own fig orchard; and by hard work in and out of the Chamber of Commerce, he alone saved and developed the California fig industry, and introduced the cured figs into the eastern markets by systematizing the harvesting and packing methods, thereby diminishing the expense. Disaster overtook him, however, in the well-remembered hard times when Coxie's "Army" marched upon Washington, D. C. Mr. Mitrovitch had bought three hundred tons of figs on the trees, and had paid for them, and laid out the harvesting and packing expenses of the laborers, but, owing to the business depression, the figs, like the grapes on the market, could not be sold that year, and when he tried to make fig brandy, the government would not issue him a license. His losses that year, therefore, were over \$30,000—a sum large enough to crush many a less resolute soul. What kind of first-class citizen-stuff, however, is in this naturalized American may be seen from some of the subsequent events in his career.

Mr. Mitrovitch was married in 1891, and two boys and two girls—making now six voters in the family—blessed the union. He also came to have his own home in the city of Fresno, but when, in 1912, the Balkan War was declared by Montenegro in her move against Turkey, Mr. Mitrovitch left his wife and children here and volunteered to campaign against the Turks. In 1914 he returned to Fresno, and the Morning Republican, among other newspapers in the state, gave him this most flattering notice: "When twenty-one members of the local Serbian colony left for the Balkan War in October, 1912, they were joined by S. N. Mitrovitch, a well-known Fresno resident, who had seen service before in the War against Turkey in 1877. Mr. Mitrovitch returned to Fresno last Thursday, after having served throughout the late war, and he is the first of the local Serbians to return. Because of his knowledge of languages, he gained many distinctive honors while in the service of Montenegro, and was decorated with the Cross of the Order of Prince Danilo I. for bravery and patriotic service rendered to the people of Montenegro. During the greater part of his time in the war he acted as an interpreter for General Martinovich, Minister of War for Montenegro; and his duties under the Minister of War brought him in constant touch with the military attaches of different nations, including the son of General Nelson A. Miles, who was present as the representative of the United States. Mr. Mitrovitch, who was with the battalion of American volunteers for about three and one-half months, was on the firing line under the very walls of the Turkish stronghold at Scutari, when he was suddenly taken ill with pneumonia. Later, he was assigned to the general staff as interpreter. He also acted as post-office censor for all Italian and English mail."

Six months after Mr. Mitrovitch's return from the war, he finished a manuscript of about two hundred thousand words, in English, narrating his experiences in the exciting campaigns in which he participated; and the book was to have been published by Macmillan & Co., at New York. The title was, "An American Citizen Volunteer in the Balkan War," but the outbreak of the great European War, overshadowing all else, led the publishers to decline what otherwise they would have bidden for.

In 1917, when the United States declared war against Germany, and the call for volunteers was issued by the president, Mr. Mitrovitch, although fifty-eight years of age, promptly offered his services to the Secretary of War, pointing with pride to his record in two wars against the Turks, and his citizenship of thirty years in America; and this offer was gracefully acknowledged by the government. He also volunteered to campaign with Roosevelt against the enemy, and his generous and heroic willingness was looked upon with pleasure by the hero of the Spanish-American War. Al-

though he himself could not go to the front, two of his sons—Milan, in his twenty-seventh year, an electrician of note, serving in the engineering corps, and Stephen, Jr., aged twenty, who went with the aviation forces—bore the good name of Mitrovitch to the firing line, along with the colors they fought to defend.

Mr. Mitrovitch is also known for his patriotic political writings contributed not only to the American press, but to the leading Serbo-Croatian newspapers in this country and abroad. He has held a forceful brief for the Jugo-Slavs, and he has been active in organizing two societies, the "All-Slavonic," in 1904, and the "Wreath," three years later, for the purpose of uniting all Slavs in America into one benevolent association, to help the sick and bury the dead, to promote love and peace, to improve their social relations, to stimulate a love toward this great country of their adoption, to keep alive the love toward the country of their origin, to advance the intellectual, moral and material welfare of the members, and to assist them to get and hold property, and to borrow or lend. When a lecture was given against the King of Montenegro at the Serbian Congress in San Francisco, in May, 1910, Mr. Mitrovitch fearlessly took issue with the lecturer, Simo Skobaitch, and even carried the matter into the courts, so that the Serbian Herald was obliged to retract and publish one of the strongest editorial apologies ever printed on the Pacific Coast. As the result of so much campaigning for political freedom and for what he regards as truth, Mr. Mitrovitch numbers among his political enemies many chauvinistic Serbs—but that is one of the matters of which this doughty Serbian-Californian is very proud.

EMIL F. KAISER.—A progressive and prominent orchardist and vineyardist who has contributed much toward the advancement of horticulture and viticulture in Central California is Emil F. Kaiser, a native of France, where he was born in 1867, and where he spent much of his childhood. He is the son of Emanuel and Christina Kaiser, worthy parents who did the best they could for their family, and who enjoyed everybody's esteem. In 1879, the Kaisers left the continent for America, and after arriving at New York City the first serious separation took place. Emil and his brother Guss set out on horseback across the great American Continent, investigating the possibilities in different states, and did not pull rein until they reached California. In Fresno they purchased land in the Kearney tract. On their report of being pleased with the soil, climate and conditions in California, their brother John joined them, and soon became superintendent for M. Theodore Kearney. The brothers assisted in leveling and grading the Kearney lands, as well as in sowing alfalfa and planting orchards and vineyards. To Emil Kaiser fell the lot of setting out all the trees on one side of Kearney Avenue and for half of the distance on the other side; and there is nothing in which Mr. Kaiser takes more keen enjoyment than in his frequent trips out Kearney Boulevard, now grown to be famous as one of the most beautiful country drives, not only in California, but in the United States. Besides this, the brothers farmed and improved their ranch.

In 1900 the brothers made the trip to Alaska, where for a time they were mining at Nome. On his return from the frozen North, Emil F. Kaiser again took to ranching. Still later he set up in business in Fresno, and he yet maintains his commercial interests there. He is actively identified with the Chamber of Commerce, leaves no stone unturned to "boost" everything that it endorses, and never tires of advancing the interests of the city. Politically, though long a live-wire Democrat, Mr. Kaiser never limits his support, especially in local issues, to purely Democratic measures.

On April 18, 1895, Mr. Kaiser and Miss Elizabeth Wendt became husband and wife, and now three boys and three girls enliven their family hearth: Leona, a graduate of Heald's Business College; Emil J., of the automobile repair firm of Kaiser & Willever; Guss, who has just returned from service in the United States Navy; Vera, attending Fresno High School; and Florian



Emil H. Hansen

and Lawrence. All of the children make their home under the parental roof, excepting Emil J., who is married and resides in his own home.

In 1890 the Order of the Sons of Herman was started here, and it has ever since maintained a place of influence in the community, while greatly adding to its strength. Mr. Kaiser is now Grand President of the State of California division, an honor he duly appreciates. He also belongs to the Eagles, the Owls, and the Foresters.

HARRY CLYDE BASEY.—A young man who has demonstrated his ability as a viticulturist and horticulturist, is Harry C. Basey, a native of Iowa, where he was born near Oskaloosa, January 27, 1880. His father, George Basey, was also born in Iowa, where he was a farmer; he removed to Fillmore County, Nebr., 1884, and in 1891 to Nuckolls County, the same state, being active as a farmer until he retired; he now lives in Edgar, Nebr. The mother of Harry C. was Louisa Delpha Jordan, born in Iowa and descended from an old Southern family; she is still living, the mother of eight sons and one daughter, the latter being deceased.

Harry C. is the fifth in order of birth, and from the age of four was reared in Nebraska, receiving a good education in the public schools. When twenty years of age he began for himself, being employed on farms in Nebraska. He was married in Nuckolls County, in 1904, to Miss Garnett Norwood, who was born in that county. Her parents, John and Alice (Cody) Norwood, were early settlers and homesteaders in Nuckolls County, as was also grandfather Norwood, as early as 1872.

After his marriage Mr. Basey farmed one year in Nebraska and then removed, in 1905, to Pulaski County, Mo., where he purchased a farm in the Ozark Mountains. Three years later he sold this and removed to Audrain County, Mo., where with his father-in-law, Mr. Norwood, he purchased a farm and successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising.

On account of his wife's health, they sold out and came to Fresno County, Cal., in 1912, and Mr. Norwood and himself bought thirty acres in Round Mountain District. It was unimproved, but by energy and care they now have a beautiful ranch. Twenty-five acres are in white Adriatic figs, and the balance in Thompson seedless grapes. The ranch is well improved, being equipped with a pumping plant ample for irrigating the whole tract.

With his wife, Mr. Basey is a member of the Christian Church in Sanger; he being a member of the Board of Deacons.

A. E. THOMPSON.—A veritable "hustler" who has done much to build up Central California, and in doing so has well built up himself, is A. E. Thompson, the well-known viticulturist and horticulturist, who believes that Fresno is the best county in the State, and that Clovis and vicinity are the best section in the flourishing county. Born at Hamilton, Ontario, as was his father, E. J. Thompson, he is the son of a farmer who came into the United States and Michigan, then moved to Missouri and later went back to Ontario. In the late eighties he reached California and Fresno, and soon after he bought a ranch on Millbrook Avenue. His wife, who was Elizabeth Rolstin before her marriage, died in California, the mother of eight children, three of whom settled in this state.

A. E. Thompson, the eldest in the family, was brought up in Canada, and educated in the public schools there. He remained at home until he was twenty-one, and then he went to Brandon, Manitoba, where he followed farming for a year. Meanwhile, however, he was hearing and thinking about the wonderful commonwealth by the Pacific. In 1888 he came to Fresno. He was a stranger, and without means, but he went to work on various ranches, part of the time for twenty dollars and board, and sometimes for only fifteen. He also worked eleven hours. He got ahead, however, and, as soon as possible, he bought five acres on Millbrook Avenue. He improved the

land and sold it, and then he bought twenty acres and some city lots, which he also improved and sold.

By the year 1913, Mr. Thompson had bought his present twenty acres of vineyard and orchard, upon which he located; and now he has a fine place, with an attractive residence and well-built and commodious barns, the most of the land set out as a vineyard or planted to alfalfa. To make his vineyard, he had to take out the orchard. The Enterprise canal affords a good supply of water. He has ten acres of Thompson's seedless, two acres of other vines, two and a half acres of peaches, and the balance in orange trees. Mr. Thompson leases ten acres of vineyard adjoining, with which he has exceptional success, as may be judged from the fact that he was one of the first, in the vicinity of Fresno, to set out Thompson's seedless—the vines of which, in excellent condition, are still growing.

Mr. Thompson was married at Fresno to Miss Sarah Buck, a native of Ontario; and by her he had six children: Edwin, who assists his father on the ranch; Dorothy, Annette, Leslie, Joseph, and Pauline. Mrs. Thompson is a member of the Baptist Church of Clovis.

Successful, and a leader in the field in which he has made his modest fortune, Mr. Thompson is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and also of the California Associated Raisin Company. He is a Republican, but in local issues he votes for the candidates most suitable.

REV. FATHER GEORGE P. SEUBERT.—The beloved and devoted pastor of the Saint Anthony of Padua Catholic Church at Reedley, Cal., is a native of Lebanon, Pa., where he was born on January 19, 1875, a son of Francis A. and Margaret Seubert. He attended the parochial school at Lebanon until he reached the age of fourteen, after which he entered the Saint Vincent College at Beatty, Pa., from which institution he was graduated in 1896. To complete his studies for the priesthood, he went to Europe, where he attended the University at Innsbruck, Austria, the capital city of the Tyrol. He remained at Innsbruck three years to finish his course, and then returned to the United States, and was ordained a priest on March 7, 1899, at Baltimore, Md. After holding various pastorates in Pennsylvania, Father Seubert came to California in 1905; and on November 15, 1906, he was installed as pastor of the church at Reedley.

At an early period in the history of Fresno County, the congregation of Saint Anthony of Padua was formed as a mission under the guidance of the priest at Fresno. From the year 1890 until 1900 it was under the care of the priest stationed at Hanford, and from 1900 until November 15, 1906, it was still a mission and was supplied from the church at Visalia. The latter date is a memorable one in the history of this church, for it was then that the Right Rev. T. J. Conaty, D.D., Bishop of Monterey and Los Angeles, appointed the present efficient and consecrated priest as pastor. At that time there was no church building and the congregation was obliged to meet in halls or private homes. Subsequently a spacious site for a church building was purchased comprising ten lots situated on the corner of Eleventh and F Streets. On October 8, 1907, excavation for the foundation was commenced, and on November 24, 1907, the corner-stone was laid by the greatly beloved Bishop Conaty, who, after the lapse of four busy years, which were marked by intense activity on the part of the zealous pastor, also dedicated the building on May 21, 1911. The edifice is regarded as one of the finest specimens of church architecture in Fresno County, and compares favorably with many of the churches found in larger cities. It has a seating capacity of 400 persons. At a very low estimate the cost of the structure is placed at \$35,000. An interesting feature of the building, by which is shown the high regard in which the pastor, Father Seubert, is held by the citizens of Reedley, is the large clock, which was donated by non-Catholic citizens of the town. The gift renders a splendid service to the

inhabitants of this enterprising little city, as the clock strikes the hours, as well as the half hours, throughout the day and night. The dial of the clock is four and one-half feet in diameter and is visible all over the town.

Father Seubert erected a rectory, constructed from the same kind of stones as were used in the church building. This structure, now completed at a cost of about \$10,000, is an attractive addition to the permanent buildings of Reedley. Much credit is due both to the loyal members who, by their sacrifices of both money and time, have made possible the consummation of this worthy work, and also to the pastor who, with untiring zeal and consecrated devotion, has led his people to the triumphant completion of so great an undertaking.

JOHN L. MITCHELL.—How much Selma and vicinity owe to such men as John L. Mitchell, the popular real estate and insurance agent, and notary public, may be estimated only when one is familiar with the personal character and exceptional equipment of the subject, factors which have made him, as well as his esteemed wife and family, acceptable as leaders or prime-movers in all circles wherein they take part. His father was Benjamin Mitchell, a native of Tennessee, who lived for years in Missouri as a farmer and died there, aged eighty-five. His mother, who was Matilda Looney before her marriage, was a native of Alabama and came to Missouri, where she was married. She lived to be two years older than her husband, and when she passed hence, she also was mourned by a large group of friends. The worthy couple had fourteen children, of whom thirteen grew to maturity.

Born at Morrisville, near Springfield, Mo., on May 9, 1853, the seventh son in the family and the ninth child, John attended the schools in the vicinity of his home, and later took a six-years' classical course at Morrisville College. Having thus prepared himself with all thoroughness under the best of teachers for pedagogical work, Mr. Mitchell taught for a while in Missouri and next in Texas; and having carried out a plan of getting some first-hand acquaintance with the Pacific Coast, he came to California in 1887 and after visiting the Sacramento Valley for three months, he returned to Missouri on account of the death of his youngest brother.

Mr. Mitchell has been twice married, death depriving him in the first instance of his gifted bride. She was Miss Sadie Scott of Oakland before her union, and she passed away about a year later, leaving no children. It was 1906 when Mr. Mitchell, at Selma, chose for his wife Mrs. S. A. Wenty, widow of Fred Wenty, a rancher of that neighborhood. Her maiden name had been Sallie A. Richards, and she had come from St. Louis, where she was born. At the time of her second marriage, she had a daughter, Edith; and this attractive young lady, who in 1917 graduated from the Selma High School, is now a Sophomore at the Baptist University of Redlands.

A member of the Selma Blue Lodge of Masons, Mr. Mitchell has become Past Master, and he is also Past High Priest of the Chapter, and Inspector of the district. Mrs. Mitchell is Past Matron of the Eastern Star of Selma. Mr. Mitchell belongs to the Methodist Church South, while Mrs. Mitchell subscribes to the articles of belief of the Selma Baptist Church.

Long a stalwart Democrat, Mr. Mitchell has served as city clerk and recorder of Selma two times, and both while in office and since he retired to take care of his numerous interests, he always has proven alive and active for the public good.

In 1890, Mr. Mitchell came to California for a second time, settling at Selma, and a year later he bought a ranch of some forty acres and planted it to muscats. By a very natural process, he developed into a first-class booster, and among other organizations, he cheerfully gives the California Raisin Growers' Association all possible support. In 1901 he went to Alaska and mined at Nome and Teller, but the irresistible lure of California drew him back to the happiest of all his happy hunting-grounds.

Several years previously he had opened his well-known real estate and insurance office, and for a long time he has dealt with great success in improved lands. He has also built a number of bungalows for residential purposes, and these he has always sold to the advantage of both himself and the buyer. He represents the following fire insurance companies: London Assurance, New Zealand, Continental, Fidelity, Phoenix, American Eagle, American, Glens Falls, Agricultural, Boston, and other standard old lines. Giving the closest attention to details, taking the most unselfish interest in the needs of his many patrons, and sparing no pains both to aid and to please, it is no wonder that John L. Mitchell succeeds in his undertakings.

JAMES WILLIAM SIMS.—A resident of Fresno County, who inherits many of the characteristics of his father, Phillip W. Sims, one of the early and highly-honored settlers, is James William Sims, who was born in Graves County, Ky., on August 20, 1868, and came to Fresno on June 11, 1887. His father was born in Tennessee of an old Eastern family, and lived in his native state until his marriage. He served in the Civil War as a corporal in the Confederate Army, after which he engaged in farming in Graves County. In 1874, the family removed to Bell County, Texas, and there he raised grain and cotton; then he moved to Bosque County, of the same state, and continued farming. In 1887 the family located in Fresno city, and Mr. Sims followed the carpenter's trade. Now he resides near Fresno. Mrs. Sims was Martha J. Blythe before her marriage, and she also was born in Graves County, Ky., a member of an old Virginia family. Grandfather Blythe came from Virginia, and her mother was an Adair, of a prominent Kentucky family. The mother is still living and the mother of seven children, all sons, five of whom are living.

J. W. Sims, the oldest of the children, spent his first six years on a farm in Texas, while he attended the public school. He learned to raise grain and cotton, so that when he came to Fresno he at least knew how to work. He assisted in the construction of the Hughes Hotel, and then for five years he worked for a coal and wood dealer.

In 1892 he was married at Fresno to Miss Lucy Behunan, a native of Santa Rosa and the daughter of P. M. Behunan who crossed the plains in 1848, and became a contractor and builder in Fresno, and later embarked in the coal and wood business.

After marriage, Mr. Sims entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Company and for a while worked in the car shops; later he was made inspector, and five years later he was in charge of a part of the Santa Fe shops. At the end of three years he came back to the Southern Pacific, and he was nearly twelve years in all in railroad work. In the meantime, in 1892, and while working for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, Mr. Sims bought his present place of twenty acres at the corner of Clinton and Chittenden avenues, in Montpelier tract, located upon it and began improvements during his spare time. Besides Elberta and Muir peaches, he raises Thompson seedless grapes.

Since 1909 Mr. Sims has also done much spraying. He began with a Myers hand pump, but three years later he bought a power machine, now he has three power machines, and he is busy doing spraying all over Fresno County and even in Madera County. The season runs from November until April of each year. For five years he has engaged in operating a power machine mounted on a truck, for whitewashing buildings. He belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company, and he has been a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc., from its origin.

Mrs. Sims died at Fresno in 1911 and left one child, W. E. Sims, a machinist in Fresno. On his second marriage, Mr. Sims took for his wife Anna Rock, a native of Boston, where she was educated. He belongs to the Woodmen of the World, and has long been a deacon in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. In national politics, Mr. Sims is a Democrat.



J. H. Sims

JOHN SALLEE PUGH.—One of the successful viticulturists hereabouts, and yet a man who is never so occupied that he has not some time to spare for the general advancement of agricultural interests in California, or for the extension of hospitality to the stranger, thereby maintaining pleasantly a fine old California tradition, is John Sallee Pugh, who owns a place of eighty acres and leases another tract just as large on Ventura Avenue, eleven and a half miles east of Fresno. A native son of the Golden State, Mr. Pugh was born near Pennington, Sutter County, in 1873, the son of John M. Pugh, who settled in California in 1858 and is represented on another page of this work.

Brought up at Stonyford, Colusa County, where he attended the public school until he was fourteen, John accompanied his parents to Fresno County when they moved here, and continued his schooling at Orange Center, after which he went to the Oakland Polytechnic, where he took a business course. Returning to Fresno, he assisted his father and moved with him and the rest of the family, in 1905, to a ranch of 140 acres in the Kutner Colony. Here the father and his sons engaged in viticulture and horticulture until the death of the former, when John pushed out for himself.

He at first purchased a forty-acre vineyard in the Kutner Colony, to which he gave his most careful attention until, in 1915, he sold it, and then he bought forty acres of his present ranch in the Granville district. This he has improved and made into a fine vineyard. In 1918 he bought forty acres adjoining, so that he now has eighty acres in a body. The new forty is planted to alfalfa.

Since he came to Fresno County, on June 19, 1888, Mr. Pugh has seen great improvements in the region which then had but few vineyards and now boasts of over a hundred thousand acres. He has found pleasure in vigorously promoting the aims of the California Associated Raisin Company. He supports the candidates of the Democratic party; while in fraternal circles he is a Mason, having been made a Mason in Selma Lodge, No. 277, F. & A. M.

Looking back over past years and conditions, and contrasting the present vastly improved state of affairs, Mr. Pugh is one of the most optimistic acclaimers of a glorious future for this great commonwealth.

HORATIO SEYMOUR CONNER.—Like many other residents of Fresno County, Horatio S. Conner traveled over most of the states in the Union before making his choice of a locality for agricultural development, and he is now one of the Valley's most enthusiastic boosters. Born in Auburn, N. Y., January 30, 1863, he is a son of Joseph and Mathilda (Steele) Conner, the father a native of Ireland and a shoemaker by trade, first in Auburn, N. Y., and later in Cleveland, Ohio. He answered the call of his country at the outbreak of the Civil War, enlisting in the Forty-fifth New York Regiment, Volunteer Infantry, and served for four years, on his return making his home in Cleveland. Both parents are now deceased, and of their eleven children, five are now living.

Horatio Seymour Conner was educated in the public schools of Auburn until 1879, when he removed with his parents to Cleveland, and when sixteen years old was apprenticed there as electrical engineer in the Brush Electric Light Company, continuing his studies at night school in the meantime. After three years as an apprentice, he remained with the company seventeen years longer, as an expert electrician, and built electric light plants for them, and also electric street car lines, all over the United States. He put in the big power plant in Virginia City, Nev., and one at Eldorado, Cal., also in the old Brush Electric Light Company plant in San Francisco. His travels took him all over the states, from Maine to New Orleans, and Boston to San Francisco.

After thirty-three years on the road as an expert electrician, the last five years as salesman for the Brush Electric Light Company, Mr. Conner felt he had had enough, and decided to settle down, having always looked forward to California since his first trip here, in 1889. In 1916 he bought his ranch of forty acres on Belmont Avenue, Fresno, and engaged in viticulture and horticulture, his land being planted principally to muscats and malagas, with a border of fig trees. He has put in modern improvements, installing an electric motor for lighting and power, and a pumping plant, also run by electricity, and he devotes the same energy and thoroughness to his land cultivation which made him so successful in the world at large. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and at all times favors projects for the advancement of Central California.

The marriage of Mr. Conner united him with Mrs. Clara (Mitchell) Andrus, a native of Michigan, in which state the ceremony occurred. Both Mr. and Mrs. Conner are members of the First Presbyterian Church, Fresno.

JOHN L. ASHTON.—A successful business man who is associated with an important industrial establishment of Selma, and who is one of the representative commercial men of this progressive town, is John L. Ashton, owner and manager of Ashton's Bakery, at 1947 High Street. His father was William S. Ashton, a native of England, who came to America with his parents when he was five years old, and was a teacher of vocal music in Kentucky and Tennessee, organizing old fashioned singing classes. His mother, whose maiden name was Artelia Early, belonged to a well-known family of Kentucky, in which state she was born, and was always proud of the fact that her mother, Mrs. Mary Early, liberated all of her slaves at the outbreak of the Civil War.

Born at Lamasco, Lyon County, Ky., on June 24, 1879, the fifth in a family of six children, John attended the schools of his native section and grew up on his father's farm. He learned to turn a furrow, raise corn and tobacco, and to attend to live stock. He took up some of the more useful branches of study, such as commercial arithmetic, algebra and geometry, and made such progress that he was ready, when twenty-one years of age, to make his own way in the world.

On attaining his majority, Mr. Ashton came to the Pacific Coast and, liking California, and Fresno in particular, he stopped for three years to learn the bakery trade at the Home Bakery. Next he went to Hanford and took charge of the City Bakery, and in the latter town he remained about a year.

Returning to Fresno, Mr. Ashton established the Model Bakery, which is still being conducted there. He built a larger Model Bakery in Kern Street when the premises became too small, and there, by introducing the latest machinery, appliances and methods, soon took rank as one of the best of Fresno's bakers. Such was the encouraging response of the public that at one time he baked 10,000 loaves of bread a day.

Disposing of this bakery in 1911 to its present owner, he went to Bakersfield and there organized the Ashton Baking Company. At the end of a year and a half, however, he sold out his proprietary interest, and then, for another year and a half, he managed the establishment for the purchaser.

In September, 1915, he came to Selma, and purchased the Route Bakery; and on February 5, 1917, he bought the Home Bakery, at 1947 High Street, where he is now located. Determined to give Selma the very best establishment he could devise, he spent \$3,000 in remodelling the place, and has since installed new machinery, including mixers, moulders and ovens, so that now, without doubt, he has one of the most sanitary and best-equipped bakeries in the Valley. He owns and is always improving his residence property at 2024 Grant Street, Selma, where he dwells very happily with his family. He has also bought the building on High Street where the Ashton Bakery is located. The products of this favorite bakery are retailed not only at the bakeshop, but in all the groceries of the town and vicinity.

At Fresno, Mr. Ashton was married to Miss Ellen Kalquest, a native of Boston, Mass., a talented and charming woman, and both husband and wife make and retain many friends. Their home, always hospitable, is a center of attraction for music-lovers. They have two children, Leland and Margaret. Mr. and Mrs. Ashton are members of the Baptist Church at Selma, where Mr. Ashton sings tenor in the choir. Mr. Ashton is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In addition to his residence and business properties already mentioned, he owns four lots at Fresno, one of which already contains a residence, and eight lots at Richmond. He is a hard worker, and ascribes his success to his ceaseless endeavor to please and to serve, and the invaluable cooperation of his faithful wife. October 5, 1918, he started the California Bakery in Tulare, Tulare County, Cal. He is now on the point of buying a one-half interest in the Lark Bakery and Confectionery at Fresno.

He is of that quality of manhood which Fresno County loves to welcome and his example clearly demonstrates what a young man of brain and brawn, with application, can do in a few years in this locality.

HENRY J. JACOBSEN.—A young man in the real estate field of Selma who, by not merely enterprise but by the assurance that his word will always be as good as his bond and that every customer will meet with the fairest of dealing, has succeeded, despite the lively competition of today, far beyond his expectations, is Henry J. Jacobsen, of the well-known firm of Farmer & Jacobsen. His father, Jens Jacobsen, was a farmer who married Sophie Stephensen, like himself a native of Denmark. Both of the worthy parents are yet living, highly honored for their integrity.

Born at Horsens, Jutland, in Denmark, on January 3, 1878, Henry grew up to enjoy a very thorough grammar school training, at the end of which course he was confirmed in the Danish Lutheran Church. Starting out for himself, he learned the trade of a tailor, serving an apprenticeship of four years. Not until he had demonstrated that he could hold his own with any of the master workmen did he receive the congratulations of his fellows, several of whom were sharp enough to prophecy that the young man would not long remain a tailor.

Not long after, Henry was seized with a desire to come to America, and in a few months he had sailed from Copenhagen for New York, landing at old Castle Garden on October 1, 1901. His destination was Council Bluffs, Iowa, but he soon found that although Denmark in winter is cold, it is far colder in Iowa, and having sampled the weather to his heart's content, he packed his trunk again, and once more moved forward to his destiny.

It happened that he had an uncle at Oleander, Fresno County, Cal. namely, the Rev. P. J. Ostegaard, who replied to his inquiries about California in the only sensible way, by urging him to come out and see for himself; hence, in February, 1902, he arrived at the Ostegaard home, and from the first day of his experience here he has liked the fruitful region. Ambitious to master English, he spent a year in the Oleander grammar school and the following year in the high school; and about that time he became acquainted with Senator W. F. Chandler, now of Fresno, who advised him to start a merchant-tailoring shop in Selma. Acting on the suggestion, he was successful from the beginning.

The following year Mr. Jacobsen bought out The Toggery, then owned by Messrs. Dusy & Price; and for ten years he managed the locally-famous store, giving Selma a service much needed and never before supplied. In December, 1913, however, he sold out and went to Los Angeles and for a short time he engaged in real estate business there. In the southern metropolis he lost no opportunity to thoroughly familiarize himself with the California realty world, so that he thereby fulfilled the prophecy that tailoring would not satisfy him forever.

On his return to Selma, Mr. Jacobsen entered into a partnership with L. B. Farmer, and together they went into the real estate field here. Now, decidedly prosperous, they own several ranches, and buy and sell ranches for others. Mr. Jacobsen alone owns a couple of ranches near Selma, and in 1917-18 built a two-story, stucco bungalow at 2519 North McCall Avenue, which is now his home, at a cost of \$6,000. He is still a young man, still a "booster," is active in the Chamber of Commerce, the Raisin Growers' and the California Peach Growers' associations.

On January 6, 1907, Mr. Jacobsen was married to Miss Gyda Petersen, a native of Denmark, who came to the United States in 1906 and reached California on August 11 of that year. They were engaged when they were young folks in Denmark, as a result of which romance Miss Petersen came all the way across the ocean to be joined in wedlock. In May, 1911, they made a trip back to the old country, returning in September. They have two children, Henry J. and Oscar C.

Prominent members of the Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church at Selma, Mr. and Mrs. Jacobsen enjoy the good will of the community in whose welfare they take such a lively interest and aid in all that gives prosperity and social improvement.

M. R. POTTER.—A fine old gentleman endowed with clean character and a strong mind, perhaps as the result of the strenuous times and untold hardships he has lived through, is M. R. Potter, the son of David Potter, a cooper who was born in Genesee County, N. Y., and married in Ohio, his bride being Almira Post. In 1853, his parents came West, passing through Chicago and making for Wisconsin; and for a while they lived near Portage City in that State, where the father worked as a cooper. At the end of two and a half years, Mr. Potter and his family moved to what is now Rochester, Minn., a section then inhabited by the Sioux Indians; and they were upon a farm in that vicinity at the time of the New Ulm massacre. The parents had thirteen children, among them three pairs of twins; and the subject of our interesting sketch was the fourth child. He well remembers the journey through Chicago, with its row after row of German saloons on one side of Michigan Avenue, and its boat-landings and warehouses on the other.

Born in Branch County, Mich., February 24, 1845, the lad worked on his father's farm while the latter was busy at his cooperage, and also sometimes helped in the barrel-making; and when the Sioux Indians went on the rampage he enlisted in the Home Guards and served in local defense during the time of the Civil War. He had many narrow escapes, but he regarded them as a matter of course in what was to him his paramount duty—the defense of country and hearth.

In 1866, Mr. Potter went with his father and brothers to Missouri and there they bought in common a section of school land in Schuyler County. Fortunately, they pulled well together, each working for the good of all; and in the end they got as much as possible out of the venture.

His marriage, however, in 1874, to Miss Viola Mattley made some difference in his plans as to the future. The lady was born in Jefferson County, Ind., the daughter of William and Phoebe (Sprague) Mattley, her mother being a relative of William Sprague, who was Governor of Rhode Island in the Sixties and later United States Senator. Mrs. Mattley was a native of Rhode Island, but Mrs. Potter grew up in Indiana until her fourteenth year, when she moved with her parents to Missouri.

Immediately after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Potter removed to Nebraska, and there near Ord, in Valley County, they took up a homestead of 160 acres on the prairie. They lived through the three-year scourge of grasshoppers in 1875-76-77, and what of privations and hardships they then suffered quite beggars description. They were not able to get away; and one time he went for three days without a bite to eat while in search of

work so that he and his family might live through the terrible ordeal. But they subsisted and persisted until 1902, when they were able to sell out and come to California. They came to Selma, where they found a good home and a pleasant neighborhood; and like themselves, the neighborhood and the home have been growing sunnier every day. Mr. Potter bought fifty acres of choice land, which he has further improved; he has planted thirty-five acres to muscats and nine acres to Thompson's; putting the remaining acreage into alfalfa and a building site. And there, one mile northeast of Selma, on Floral Avenue, he has established the most attractive of homes.

Mr. and Mrs. Potter have had two children of their own: Iva, now the wife of D. M. Orr, the well-known rancher who lives two miles northwest of Selma, and Edward O. Potter, also well-known here. In addition, they adopted a boy when he was two years old, J. H. Potter, a rancher at Burrel, Cal., who succumbed to the influenza in January, 1919.

It is sad to relate that Mr. Potter, now suffers from astigmatism of both eyes, and as far back as seven years ago was threatened with almost total blindness. This does not prevent him, however from doing his duty in civic matters. He was for years a stalwart Republican but is at present an equally resolute Progressive.

WILLIAM McINDOO and IVAN CARTER McINDOO.—Among the well known and enterprising families of Fresno County none have become better acquainted with the natural resources than the McIndoo family, represented by Ivan Carter and his father, William McIndoo, of Fresno. William McIndoo first came to the county in 1886, after having followed farming and the stock business in Ontario, Canada, for many years, to take up life's duties under different environments than found in the Province of Ontario, where he was born at Petersboro, on April 1, 1846, the oldest in a family of six boys and five girls, nine of whom reached maturity. The father was named Mathew McIndoo and he lived and died in Canada. His father was named William and he was an immigrant from Ireland to Canada in 1815. Mathew McIndoo married Mary Carter, who also spent her life in Canada. Besides William McIndoo, three of her sons located in Fresno County: Robert, Mathew and James, and they are still living.

William McIndoo was educated in the public schools and the military academy at Toronto, Canada. He assisted his father on their farm until he was twenty-one, then he started on his own responsibility and began farming and raising stock, later he exported beef cattle to the markets in New York and Buffalo. In 1886 he came to California and followed prospecting and mining in Fresno County for a time but not meeting with the results he expected he went to Oakland and engaged in the restaurant business for about eighteen months. He was very much impressed with the resources of Fresno County, however, and decided he would make a permanent location here, accordingly in 1888 he was in the county engaged in the fruit commission business, from that he began the dairy business and made a decided success in that line of work, beginning with one cow, he gradually increased his herd until he owned over 300 thoroughbred Jerseys and Holsteins and owned a ranch of 240 acres in alfalfa, besides operating land that he leased, all in the vicinity of Fresno. In February, 1913, the dairy business was incorporated under the name of the Jersey Farm Dairy, with William McIndoo as president and manager. They ran five delivery wagons in Fresno and the balance of the milk was made into butter at their creamery. The dairy business was sold to Frank Helm in 1916, but the property, 240 acres, has been set to vines. Mr. McIndoo also owned eighty acres east of Fresno. He sold out and purchased 1,600 acres at Lindsay and this he put on the market as the Caledonia Colony, selling out in ten and twenty-acre tracts. He was one of three to organize and incorporate the Lindsay Independent Packing Company, Mr. McIndoo becoming vice-president. The company grow and

pack their own fruit. Besides these properties the firm, known as Wm. McIndoo and Son, also own ranch properties in Stanislaus County and business property in Modesto.

William McIndoo married, near Wingham, Canada, Charlotte Graham, a daughter of James Graham, a blacksmith and carriage maker who lived in Fresno for many years. Mr. and Mrs. McIndoo had three children: Edith, Mrs. G. A. Manheim; Ivan Carter and Claribel, Mrs. A. J. Dibert. Mr. McIndoo is a Republican; a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; a Royal Arch Mason; and is looked upon as one of the most substantial and public spirited men of the San Joaquin Valley where he is well and favorably known.

Ivan Carter McIndoo was born in Ontario, Canada, on January 21, 1883, and was educated in the public schools of Fresno, whither he was brought when he was a small child. After finishing his education he went to work in the First National Bank, later was employed by the Union Bank, spending five years altogether, after which time he became associated with his father in the fruit business and has assisted in developing it to its present proportions. He is outside manager and gives his entire time to his work and has gained a thorough knowledge of the industry.

On January 19, 1911, Mr. McIndoo was united in marriage with Miss Maude Potts of Sacramento, and a lady of many accomplishments. They have two children to brighten their home circle: Carter G. and Mary J. Mr. McIndoo and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and are Republicans in politics. Mr. McIndoo is a Mason, holding membership in the Lodge, Chapter, Commandery and Shrine. He is deeply interested in the development of Fresno County and is held in high esteem by all who have business or social relations with him.

JOHN T. S. CLARK.—A successful business man who has done much to advance the technical standards of plumbing in Central California, and who very worthily represents that large body of English pioneers who have done so much for the development of California, is John T. S. Clark, a member of the Sanger Plumbing Company, now recognized as one of the commercial and industrial enterprises of that town. He was born at Burton-on-Trent, England, on June 15, 1883, the son of John Clark, a detective who was one of the ablest of the famous Scotland Yard secret police of the United Kingdom. He used to make trips to the United States in pursuit of criminals, and one of the trips brought him to California in pioneer days.

John T. S. Clark was educated in the schools in the vicinity of his birthplace, and at the early age of sixteen came to the United States. He located in San Jose, but after two years of labor on Santa Clara County ranches, he went, in the spring of 1902, to Converse Basin and secured work with the Sanger Lumber Company. He proved apt and willing, and advanced rapidly through different stages of the work, and from loading cars he became chief engineer of the plant, and finally he was appointed to the superintendency of the mill, the highest post at the disposition of the concern. He never asked for promotion, but was always advanced as a recognition of his unquestioned and marked ability.

On December 17, 1914, in partnership with William F. Jones, Mr. Clark established the Sanger Plumbing Company at Sanger, an enterprise now rated among the most important of the town. The main business of the company is installing pumping and irrigating plants on near-by ranches and such has been the extent of their operations that in the past four years they have installed over 400 such outfits. Among the most important of these may be mentioned that of Dillon Bros., G. R. Hawk, August Schmidt, Pugh Bros., and J. R. Boyer. The company employs seven men and uses three automobiles.



J. G. Ferguson

Mr. Clark is eminently fitted for his work, as he has had many years of very valuable experience in the mechanical line. He was one of the organizers and president of the Kings River-Hume Auto Service Company, and managed very ably a chain of freight trucks carrying goods into and out of the mountains.

Recognized as a leader and as one whose experience makes his cooperation valuable, Mr. Clark has been welcomed in the work of the Sanger Chamber of Commerce. He belongs to Sanger Lodge, No. 316, F. & A. M., and Perfection Lodge No. 6 of Fresno, Scottish Rite Masons. One of his business transactions was the purchase of a fine ranch at Tracy, which he improved and then sold at a handsome profit.

In 1906, Mr. Clark was married at San Jose to May Bryant, a native daughter and the child of one of the early pioneers who twice crossed the plains with ox-teams. They have two attractive children, Jack Bryant and Ashley Oliver. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bryant are interested in all movements for the betterment of society.

JAMES G. FERGUSON.—A business man of exceptional initiative and executive ability, a gentleman of rare personal accomplishments and splendid attainments, a citizen glad that he is living under the Stars and the Stripes and within the varied landscape of the Golden State, but proud also that he represents by a worthy inheritance one of the oldest and most renowned clans of Scotland—such is James G. Ferguson, so well and favorably known in Fresno. His father, James Ferguson, was born in Perth and for many years was with the Cunard Steamship Line, having his headquarters and residence in Liverpool. The Ferguson family is traceable back to Stirlingshire, Scotland, and has always played an important and honorable part in that storm-tossed but romantic country. Mrs. Ferguson was Helen Kerr Fead, also Scotch, and a native of Dumfrieshire. Both parents died in Liverpool. The father had been married, as a matter of fact, twice, and by his first marriage he had four daughters and a son. Rather curiously, his second wife, Catherine Hilton, became the mother of four girls and a boy, all of whom are living. The girls are in Los Angeles, and the boy, Robert Hilton Ferguson, is an electrical engineer serving his country at the front in the war.

Born at Liverpool, the third eldest child by the first Mrs. Ferguson, James G. was educated in the Northern Institute of that great harbor city, leading on to the Liverpool College and, at the age of only fourteen, passing the examinations for the entrance to the University. Instead of commencing studies there, however, he took up an apprenticeship in the Bank of Liverpool; and realizing that he was highly favored with such a prospect, he remained there six years, during which time he passed through each department satisfactorily. He served with James H. Simpson, now at the head and general manager of the Bank of Liverpool, and there are few pleasanter memories of the old days than those associated with this famous leader. Owing to close application to his exacting duties, Mr. Ferguson's health became impaired, and his physician advised a long sea-voyage. He therefore shipped to Australia on a sailer, and in that milder climate he roamed about and took his ease, until he could note an improvement. Then he engaged in the shipping business in Sydney, and it would have been strange if, with such a background of experience and valuable preparation, he had not succeeded, as he did.

While there, in January, 1886, Mr. Ferguson was married to Miss Ada Florence Bond, a native of Ballarat, Australia, and the daughter of Thomas Rhodes Bond, of Cornwall, England, a pioneer miner at Ballarat. She had been reared from childhood with care and every possible advantage at Sydney, grew to be just such a helpmate as a man of Mr. Ferguson's experience and activities would desire.

The same year, Mr. Ferguson crossed the ocean with his wife to San Francisco, but instead of trying his fortune in the large city of keen competi-

tion, he continued his journey to Humboldt County, and located at Arcata, where he found employment with Harpst & Spring, shingle manufacturers, as head accountant. Eight months later he accepted a position with the Russ Lumber Company, to perform the same responsible work*at the San Diego branch owned by C. A. Hooper & Company of San Francisco. This was in 1887, and when he reached San Diego, he found it aflame with the great boom. He held that post until 1889, when he was sent by Pope & Talbot of San Francisco to their mills on Puget Sound; and he remained manager at Utsalady until 1891 when his merit was further recognized by the Puget Sound Lumber Company which offered him a position with the old San Joaquin Lumber Company at Fresno, his duties to be those of head accountant.

It was now evident that James Ferguson was permanently identified with the West, and that it was only a question of this or that development of interests for him to be in general demand. When the Fresno Flume Company was organized in 1894, he was offered the management of the office at Clovis; and he accepted, taking charge in May of that year, and holding the position ever since. In 1912, when the old company sold to the Fresno Flume Company of Nevada, Mr. Ferguson was elected secretary and treasurer of the corporation, and this position he has also held ever since, Clovis being the headquarters of the company, of which he is still the office manager.

One child, Ada H., blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson, and later attended the Dominican College at San Rafael. Now she is the wife of Luther William Bahney, late professor of mining at Stanford University, later holding the same position at Yale College and now head of the Scoville Plant at Waterbury, Conn. They have two little girls, Elizabeth Ruth and Harriet Ada.

Mr. Ferguson is a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. E., and has been connected with that organization about twenty years. He was made a Mason in Clovis Lodge, No. 417, F. & A. M., where he has served as treasurer. He is also a member of Fresno Chapter, No. 67, R. A. M., and is a member of the Fresno Consistory, thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Masons. He belongs to Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., of San Francisco, and is a member of the Woodmen of the World, being a charter member of Manzanita Camp, Fresno, 1894, and having been its first manager. He also belongs to the Fraternal Brotherhood, the St. Andrew's Society of Fresno, the Hoo Hoo's, the Episcopal Church, and the Republican party, having served the latter as a member of the county central committee. Few men in Fresno County have such an interesting record.

H. M. LITTLE.—A native Minnesotan who came here in the eighties, at the time of the great boom, H. M. Little is now a resident of Tivy Valley, one of the most picturesque and delightful spots to be found in the foothills of the great Sierras. This valley is easy of access, with but little elevation, and yet possesses all the grandeur of the nobler mountains with their varied scenery.

Mr. Little owns a beautiful home site, with all the buildings necessary and suitable for the ordinary ranch. In addition to his valley land he owns a large grazing range for his stock, in all 427 acres, which give him ample room for his herds; and he has a hennery of the best strain of White Leghorns, to the number of 600 or more. He has been operating this ranch intensively since 1916, and besides the above-mentioned property, he has holdings in Riverside County, an orange ranch at La Habra, Orange County, and town property in Los Angeles County. On his home ranch he devotes himself to stock and poultry exclusively.

Mr. Little was born in McLeod County, Minn., in 1860, and is the son of David and Sarah Little of Pennsylvania, who were the parents of nine children, four of whom are still living. Two of these are in California, and the names of the four are: Wilbur, who lives in South Dakota; George H., a resident of Iowa; Samuel G., whose home is at Point Richmond; and



J. J. Betzold

H. M., the subject of our interesting review. One other came to California, Flaville, a sister who died at La Habra.

In early life Mr. Little learned the blacksmith trade, and this he followed continuously until 1903, never wanting for patronage, for he was a good smith of the old school. He came to California in 1887 and did well at Rivera for nine years, and from there he went to La Habra where he continued his trade, and in time he accumulated the various properties already mentioned.

In 1885 Mr. Little was married to Miss Flora Curtis, a native of Maine; and, as a result of this happy union, three children were born: Merritt, now deceased; an infant also deceased, and Herbert, who lives at La Habra, and who is married and has two children. Mrs. Little came to California in 1888, and has since become associated with its social life and charities.

Mr. and Mrs. Little are estimable citizens, participating in whatever makes for the elevation of American life. They aim to inform themselves on the issues of the day, to endorse only the best measures and to vote for those who are above reproach.

JOHN J. BETZOLD.—John J. Betzold was born in Morrison County, at North Prairie on Two Rivers, about twenty miles northwest of St. Cloud, Minn., on November 11, 1870. When two years of age his parents moved to Brainerd, Minn., where he was brought up and educated, and where he remained until nineteen years of age. In 1889 he left his Minnesota home for the Western Coast and sojourned for a time in Seattle and Tacoma; in the latter place becoming a student in the public library. Studious in his tastes, he spent eight years in research work, intending to make literature his life profession. With this thought in mind he made a special study of physics, Shakespeare, economics and philosophy, the result of his study being six books of unpublished manuscript. His health failing, in 1899 he came to California and engaged in picking fruit in Los Gatos and San Jose, and in the fall of that year came to Fresno. Here he started making hominy and horseradish, which he peddled from house to house. From this small beginning his present new, modern, sanitary pickle factory was evolved. The building is 50 by 103 feet, with concrete floor, and is fully equipped with all modern appliances for the manufacture of the twenty-five varieties of condiments he has on the market, among which are olives, olive oil, dill pickles, Mexican hot chili, mustard relish, chow-chow, and malt vinegar. He employs five men in the factory the year round, increasing the number from ten to fifteen during the busy season. He has several inventions to his credit, among them being a water-filter and hominy cooking machine.

Mr. Betzold has been prominent in the development of Fresno and is a citizen of whom she may justly be proud. His success in life is due solely to his individual efforts. His estimable companion, who before her marriage to Mr. Betzold was Miss Jennie M. Staton, of Beloit, Wis., is an able assistant to her husband in his growing business. In his political views Mr. Betzold is a Socialist.

PETER BERING.—A well-to-do farmer and gentleman of attractive personality, who enjoys the proud distinction, as a descendant of Vitus Bering, the distinguished Danish navigator, of being related to the great scientist whom Peter the Great in 1728 sent on an expedition to the North when he discovered the Strait now bearing his name, is Peter Bering who came to California early in the nineties. He was born in Denmark, at Horsens, in Jutland, October 8, 1871, the son of Henry Bering, a farmer, and so came to be raised on a farm, while he was educated at the local public schools. After a practical apprenticeship in agriculture he spent five years in Schleswig, Germany, in an interesting town called Gramm, and after that he served for a year in the infantry of the Danish Army, receiving an honorable discharge.

While in Denmark, Mr. Bering was married to Miss Caroline Hansen, a native of that country. He was next employed in a factory, and in time was put in charge of the receiving department of the concern. Such was the quality of the service that he rendered and the compensation for his labor that he remained in that position of responsibility for eight years, and left it only to come to California.

Mr. Bering's decision to come to the Pacific Coast was doubtless arrived at through the fact that he had a brother-in-law in Fresno County to whom he came on June 14, 1903. For three years he farmed, and then for a couple of years he worked at the carpenter's trade in Rolinda. Then he bought twenty acres of land there, and set them out as vineyards. He set out the Thompson seedless and he planted alfalfa; he built a fine residence and useful buildings, and he bought the ten adjoining acres, making thirty acres in all. He operated this until November, 1916, when he disposed of it at a good profit.

It was then that Mr. Bering came to Eggers Colony and bought the twenty acres that he now calls his own. He cared for the place, and continued in business. He has four acres of Thompson seedless and three acres of Malaga and muscat grapes. He leases the adjoining twenty acres, using the same for a vineyard, and has five acres of muscats and fifteen acres of wine grapes. He belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company and to the Melvin Grape Growers' Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Bering have had four children: Henry and Vitus assist their father; Marie, in Fresno, and Clara is at home. Mr. Bering belongs to the Danish Brotherhood, serving as president of the lodge for two terms, and in national politics he is a Democrat. He never loses an opportunity to encourage local movements for the public weal.

M. A. AND L. P. IPSEN.—A fine old Danish family with traditions reaching far back into the heroic history of that brave little country, and having present-day representatives who are rated among the successful and influential men of affairs, is that of the two brothers, Marcus A. and Louis P. Ipsen, ranchers, dairymen and stockmen, who compose the firm of M. A. & L. P. Ipsen so widely known among California agriculturists and financiers. They reside on their fine, large and well-improved dairy ranch three miles southeast of Burrell, on the Elkhorn Grade Road. They are also extensively engaged in grain-growing on the West Side, where they own a fine tract of 320 acres, ten miles north of Huron, in Fresno County. The home ranch consists of 132½ acres, and there they have planted trees, built commodious barns, milk house and a comfortable residence, laid out large, clean yards, and put up strong fences, feeding-racks and other contrivances designed to expedite the work of the day, all presenting a very pleasant sight to the aesthetic eye. Self-made, hard-working, it is no wonder that nowhere may a more ideally-arranged, or better-kept dairy be found.

Both of these gentlemen were born, the sons of Jeppe H. Ipsen, on the beautiful island of Bornholm, a Danish province in the Baltic Sea, from which on a clear day both the shores of Sweden and Denmark can be spied with the aid of a field-glass. The mother had been Karen Maria Dam before her marriage, and both father and mother first saw the light on the same island. There they married and lived, and the father died, on a small farm, although the father relied for a living for himself and family mainly on his work as a brick-layer, contractor and builder, working with an older brother in that business. The mother is still living in the village of Ronne, enjoying life at the advanced age of seventy-five. The father died in 1884 at the age of forty-one, as the result of lifting too large a rock.

The good mother kept the family together, although they were in such poor circumstances that all the children had to work. There were eight children in the family, and all are living: Signe married Andrew Lindstrom,



Marcus A Ipsen



Louis P. Spren



Rena Spren

a county commissioner and rancher in Summit County, Colo., and there she assists her husband in stock-raising; Louis P. is the second in the order of birth; Jens Christian is a sea-captain at Ronne, Denmark; then came Marcus A.; Hans J. is a farmer in his native land; John M. is a tailor in Sjaelland, Denmark; Anna Maria is married and lives at Ronne; and Otto L. is an electrician in the same place.

Louis P., who was born on May 29, 1868, came to Pontiac, Ill., twenty years later, and in time wrote to his brother, Marcus, to join him in the New World. The latter, who was born on March 27, 1873, had learned, however, enough about Fresno County to center his anticipations here, and arriving in America, after a voyage begun in March, 1891, he came straight to Central California, arriving in Fresno in April. He began to work by the month as a farm-laborer and continued for six years. In 1889 Louis also came to Fresno. Louis was the first to rent a farm, but he quit when he could not do as well, and went back to working by the month.

The Ipsen Bros. started as a firm in renting a section of land near Caruthers, and the firm has been busy, constantly developing its connections and increasing its activities, ever since. They bought 132½ acres here in the fall of 1903, when it was salt grass without any improvements, and soon had seventy high-grade Holstein cows. In 1912 they bought 320 acres of land near Huron, then wild, and under their management it came to tell a different and a more attractive story.

Marcus A., who is still a bachelor, took a trip back to Denmark in 1910, while Louis looked in upon his native land thirteen years before. At Dillon, in Summit County, Colo., on November 16, 1903, the latter was married to Miss Nina Jensen, from the city of Ronne, in the island of Bornholm, Denmark, and they have become the parents of three children: Marvin Archie, Viola Maria, and Louis Marcus. The family attends the United Brethren Church at Riverdale. A member of the Republican party and public-spirited to a high degree, Mr. Ipsen, as well as his brother, worked hard to get the railway through this section, and also helped organize the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery, which, as a first class establishment encouraging local industry has proven of great benefit to this section. Both brothers are members of the Alfalfa Growers Association.

Mrs. Ipsen's father was Jens Peter Jensen, also a native of the island of Bornholm. He was for a while a policeman at Ronne, and later a farmer; and now he is the postmaster at the little station of Ringeby, a post he has ably held for the past thirty-one years,—a fact the more remarkable since he has reached his seventy-third year. The mother, who was Kristine Caroline Hansen, died on Good Friday, 1910, seventy-two years old and six years the senior of her husband. They had six children: Andreas Peter has been a farmer for forty years in the Transvaal, South Africa; Petra Carolina is married and lives near the old home in Denmark; Johannies Sextus is a farmer near Ronne, Denmark; Anine Marie is single and keeps house for her father at the old home-place; Otto Peter is a farmer in Denmark; and there is Nina, now Mrs. Ipsen, who grew up in Denmark, there attended the public schools, was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church. She is the first member of the family to come to America, and was twenty-five when she crossed the seas and went to Warren, Pa., worked there as a domestic for eight months, and then came on to Dillon, Colo., where she renewed the acquaintance with her husband, whom she first met in Denmark. She was born on the same island with him, and the romance so developed that "it happened in Norland." Mrs. Ipsen's father was an extensive traveler, as well as a man of affairs, and made a trip to Iceland and Greenland, where he hunted. Mrs. Ipsen is a member of the Red Cross, and was a liberal purchaser of Liberty bonds.

C. ROSS SNYDER.—Not everyone may be as justly proud of the pioneer associations of his family, or satisfied with his own popularity, as C. Ross Snyder, the broad-minded and efficient bee inspector for Fresno County. He is the youngest son and the eighth child among a family of nine children of the late Monroe Snyder, who passed away in the middle nineties and was honored as one of the original four townsites men of Selma, the others being George B. Otis, J. E. Whitson and E. H. Tucker. The father was a native of Holmes County, Ohio, and in 1849, when he was nineteen years of age, he left his home and crossed the continent with ox-teams, arriving at Sutter's Fort for information. Then he went to Shasta where he engaged in gold mining and then came back and purchased 160 acres of ground in the edge of Woodland. Soon after, he returned to Ohio, sailing around Cape Horn.

In the Buckeye State he married Jane Elizabeth Lemon, a native, and took his wife on their honeymoon trip to New York, from which city they sailed, on an old tub of a boat, for Panama. They crossed the Isthmus and finally entered the Golden Gate, and making their way inland, they settled at Woodland. This was in 1861, when Mr. Snyder built the first brick building there. He served as marshal and deputy sheriff of Woodland, and became a clerk at the State Capitol at Sacramento. He proved up on a homestead southeast of what is now Selma and bought more and more land. An illustration of his public spirit is afforded in Mr. Snyder's efforts, crowned with success, to secure such railway facilities as would favor the growth of the settlement—a matter of history, as the following letter will show:

CENTRAL PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY

General Superintendent's Office

"San Francisco, April 12, 1880.

"M. Snyder, Esq.

"Dear Sir: Referring to the interview this morning in my office relative to the company's putting in a side track for the convenience of your people somewhere about midway between Fowler and Kingsburg, I believe it better to make my statement in writing to the end that there shall be no misunderstanding in the future relative to the matter. First, I understand there are different localities in that vicinity where the people desire to have a switch located. These conflicting interests must be amicably settled and a unanimous expression obtained from the interested parties fixing upon the locality. Then, on conveyance of a piece of land, one hundred feet wide and sixteen hundred feet long for depot grounds, and the payment of \$700, towards defraying the expenses of the side-track, platform, etc., the company will immediately go to work and put in a siding after the distinct understanding that it shall be a prepaid, non-agency station, to and from which (rates not being provided) traffic will take the rates provided to or from the next station beyond, until such time as the company may be disposed to incur the additional expense of the maintenance of an agent. Yours respectfully,

"A. N. Towne, General Superintendent."

This worthy pioneer was sixty-five years and nine months old when he died and was buried in the old I. O. O. F. Cemetery at Selma. He was also a Mason, and had helped to start Masonic lodges at Woodland and Selma. He was a thirty-second degree Mason, and had the largest funeral ever seen in Selma up to that time, brother Masons coming from Sacramento and other parts of the State.

Mrs. Monroe Snyder is living at Selma, and is still active in her seventy-seventh year. Those born to her are: Richard M., who died at Woodland, when five years old; Ida, who died at the same place, one year younger; Jennie M., now the wife of J. F. Crowder, the well-known transfer agent in Pasadena; Charles C., the real estate man at Fresno; Anetta, the wife of P. F. Adams of Fresno and formerly the owner of the Selma Enterprise; M. D. Snyder, who resides at Selma; H. W., who is a driller at Coalinga; C. Ross,

the subject of our sketch; and Myrtle, the wife of J. H. Hull, superintendent of the Star Lease at Coalinga.

Ross Snyder was born at the old Snyder homestead on June 22, 1880, the year in which the switch was built at Selma, and was the first baby born there. He attended the common schools and at twelve years of age he worked for his brother-in-law, J. F. Crowder, who kept six hundred hives of bees. He farmed and raised bees until he was twenty-one years old.

In 1905 he was married to Miss Margaret L. Wood, the daughter of George W. and Flora A. (Wells) Wood, then of Selma but now of Merced; after which he went to work for Griffin & Brown in the sheet-metal and plumbing business; and later, in 1912, Mr. Snyder and H. Steele, in a partnership styled Steele & Snyder, engaged in the hardware, steel-metal and plumbing business on East Front Street. He abandoned this, however, in July, 1915, when he was called to a public office of peculiar trust.

In that year and month Mr. Snyder was appointed county bee inspector, and it was the sense of the community that no man in Central California could be found better qualified for the responsibility. He accordingly sold out to his partner, Mr. Steele, and the latter, in December, 1918, disposed of the hardware and plumbing and joined Mr. Snyder in the bee business. Mr. Snyder owns about 275 hives, while Mr. Steele has about 400. Mr. Snyder and Mr. Crowder had 1,100 hives in the town of San Fernando, but the forest fire of 1906 destroyed all the hives, bees and honey.

Mr. Snyder now owns a fine little cottage at 2028 Grant Street, Selma, where he lives with his family, including two children, Leslie Monroe and Opal Leora. Mrs. Snyder, who is a member of the Women of Woodcraft, was born in Missouri, was seventeen when she came to California, and now has the pleasure of having both of her parents with her at Selma. Mr. Snyder belongs to the Native Sons, being a charter member of Selma Parlor, No. 107, and to the Independent Order of Foresters and the Knights of Pythias. Both husband and wife belong to the Christian Church. This is the organization started here by Monroe Snyder and A. A. Rowell.

Mr. Snyder, who will have control of over 1,000 hives in 1919, is president of the Fresno County Bee Keeper's Association, organized at the instigation of Dr. E. L. Phillips, when an agricultural expert came on from Washington, on November 3, 1917. At that time, Mr. Snyder was elected temporary chairman; and on January 5, 1918, at the annual meeting, he was elected president. This proved the best bee-keeper's meeting in California, over two hundred members being enrolled. Thus Mr. Snyder has not only proven a successful man of affairs, but he has done much to advance one of the most important, profitable and scientifically interesting industries yet fostered in the Golden State.

ARSEN YERETZIAN.—In Armenia, that country of western Asia whose history is closely related to the interesting events connected with the story of the ark of "gopher wood" which the patriarch Noah was a hundred and twenty years building, and which is supposed to have rested on famous Mount Ararat within the confines of that wonderful country, the early scenes in the life of Arsen Yeretdzian were set, for he was born in the Turkish pashalic of Van, Armenia, April 15, 1882. There he attended an American school where he learned the English language, and in the year 1900, when eighteen years of age, came to the United States, a young man poor from a financial standpoint, but rich in enthusiasm and imbued with an indomitable will which enabled him to conquer obstacles which would have been insurmountable to one less gifted in the qualities which make for success.

He located in Lowell, Mass., where he worked during the daytime and attended night school. March 2, 1906, he left that city for the Pacific Slope, arriving at Fresno, March 10 of that year, where he continued working and studying. For six months he assisted in the construction of the Yosemite Railroad, and studied Latin at night. He finally purchased twenty acres

of unimproved land near Reedley, upon which he built a house and planted a vineyard, selling the property in two years' time at a good profit. He then went to San Francisco, where he attended Lowell high school and took a special course in Greek and Latin. He also took a course at the University of California in literature, chemistry, philosophy and physiology. Going to Los Angeles he took a correspondence school course in law for two years, attending lectures on law, at the University of Southern California, and trials in the courts of that city to gain practical experience in his chosen vocation. He was examined for admission to the bar July 14, 1917, and passed with the highest honors of the three who successfully passed the examination out of the nine applicants. Like many others, who in choosing a location which in their judgment seemed to be propitious for the successful practice of the law, Fresno was the city of his choice, and he opened a law office in the Edgerly building, where he is establishing a lucrative practice. He is an able writer, and has written many articles for the Armenian paper published in Fresno, as well as translating Ambassador Gerard's book, "Four Years in Germany," into the Armenian language. He is well known as a public speaker and lecturer and delivered a lecture before the Armenian Club on the subject, "The Law and National Justice." This self-made man has successfully acquired a fine education, and is an exemplification of what rightly directed energy, with brains to back it, can accomplish in a foreign land with neither friends nor relatives to assist him.

In his choice of a helpmate he chose a native of England, Miss Ada Chicken, to whom he was united in the bonds of holy wedlock, March 31, 1917.

GEORGE A. CATE.—A California pioneer with an exceptionally interesting career and important family historical associations, a man of attractive personality and a most entertaining conversationalist, and an extensive operator in husbandry, is George A. Cate, who is fortunate in having associated with him as another man of affairs his own son, Arthur B. Cate. He was born in Quincy, Ill., on December 17, 1843, the son of Joseph Cate, a native of New Bedford, Mass., who, as the oldest of the family, early settled near Quincy.

In 1849, Joseph Cate crossed the plains to California with his younger brother, Thomas, the two traveling by ox teams, and he became a miner and a truckster on Feather River. After while he returned East by way of Cape Horn; and as the two boys had become separated his folks induced him to return to the West in order to search for Thomas. He therefore crossed the plains again with ox teams to look for Thomas; but he did not find him. He returned East once more, and there located with his family near Hamilton, Hancock County, Ill., where he took to farming. In 1861, when the Civil War was in full swing, Mr. Cate volunteered as a member of the Missouri Regiment known as the Black Hawk Cavalry; and his son, Joseph H., was in the same regiment. During service the father was thrown from his wagon and hurt; and having received an honorable discharge he returned home. After this reverse, Joseph H. Cate was taken prisoner in Missouri by Quantrell, but was paroled and sent to St. Louis, from which place he also returned home. About the same time, however, a new company was being formed, and a neighbor came to persuade our subject (George A.) to join; and although he was serving an apprenticeship at the tinsmith's trade he replied that if he could get permission from his father and mother and employer he would enlist. These having given their consent, he enlisted in August, 1862, as a member of Company C, One Hundred Eighteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Soon after a particularly sad accident occurred to his brother, Joseph H., whom he had coaxed to join the same company with him, and who is said to have been, with George A. himself, one of the best soldiers in that organization. At the siege of Vicksburg, Joseph H., in his overzeal to spy upon the



Geo. A. Coate

enemy, looked over the ramparts to get a good view of the enemy, and he was shot and killed.

George A. Cate was mustered in at Camp Butler and placed on guard duty during the winter. In the spring of 1863, he went to St. Louis and on to Memphis. Joseph H. had never been sick a day in the army, but George was taken ill with swamp fever and was sent to the Memphis Hospital. When the authorities attempted to clean out the quarters of the invalid soldiers, on account of the expected attack on Vicksburg, George, who was convalescing, was sent to Cairo, then to Quincy and later to Keokuk, and in December, 1863, was placed in the hospital at Keokuk. This hospital was located so near his home that Dr. Comer sent him to his folks for a couple of weeks, and then he returned to the hospital where he remained until he was well. On its way to Vicksburg, George A. joined his company, which was stationed at Black River, and so he saw Pemberton's surrender. His regiment went on to Baton Rouge, where he was stationed for some time, and later removed to New Orleans. At Baton Rouge, on October 1, 1865, he was mustered out from the service he had entered on August 12, 1862, and he returned home.

George's father, who had taken up farming after his discharge, went to Kansas with George, but afterward returned to Illinois, where he died, a prosperous ranchman. Mrs. Cate, who was Sarah J. Wilson before her marriage, was born at New Bedford, Mass., and had a brother, George Wilson, who was interested in whaling. He was a man of influence and served his fellow citizens several times as mayor of New Bedford. She came to California after the World's Fair, traveling with George and his wife; and having taken up her residence awhile with them, died here in December, 1893. She was the mother of four children, a girl and three boys, and of this family, George is the only son still living. The daughter, Maggie, now Mrs. Morton, resides in Chicago.

When the family removed to Hancock County, Ill., George was reared and educated there at the public schools, and worked on a farm until he was sixteen. Then, as already mentioned, he was apprenticed to a tinsmith, but at eighteen enlisted for service in the army. After this he farmed awhile in Illinois with his father, but in 1870 he went to Kansas and located a homestead near Belleville, Republic County, which he considerably improved. Later, he returned to Illinois.

While in Hancock County, on March 11, 1873, Mr. Cate was married to Miss Cornelia Wilson, a native of Schuyler County, and the daughter of William Wilson, who was born at Enniskillen, Ireland. He came to the United States with his parents when ten years of age; and the grandmother having died at Liverpool, England, the family came on to Illinois. There William was married to Susan Eiler, who was born in Ohio, and later they moved to a place near Nauvoo where Mr. Wilson was a farmer. Both parents died there. Eight children made up the family, and three of these are still living. Mrs. Cate, who was reared and educated in Nauvoo, was the eldest, and she has two brothers, Thomas H., who was a member of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry Regiment that enlisted in 1861; and Robert, who was in Company D of the One Hundred Eighteenth Illinois Regiment.

Mr. Cate continued farming in Kansas until 1890, when he removed to California, and located in Fresno County, where he bought forty acres of stubble-fields, which he set out to vineyards; and in this business he has continued ever since. He built a fine residence and later sold the Kansas farm. Now he has a vineyard of twenty acres, and five acres given to alfalfa. He gives some attention to gardening, and he has six acres of peach trees. The whole tract is under the Enterprise Canal, and also has a pumping plant. He belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company, and to the California Peach Growers, Inc. He is also a member of Post No. 92, G. A. R., at Fresno.

Four children have come to Mr. and Mrs. Cate: Margaret, Mrs. Stanhope, resides in Clovis and has six children; Edward Melvin resides with his family of three children in Fresno, and has a farm in Tulare; Ruth, the youngest, is Mrs. Greaves, who lives on the home farm; and Arthur B., who has one son, operates the home farm. He leases forty acres of his father and owns seventy acres, and also leases other land. They also run the cannery on the place and put up the Variety Brand of tomatoes. The ranch is known as Variety Farm, and they work it in cooperation with others.

JOHN KNOX LOCKIE.—An industrious and successful rancher, who is widely respected as the worthy descendant of a well-known pioneer, and who has a talented wife and a family blessed with ideal happiness, is J. K. Lockie, who owns twenty acres which he and his wife have acquired as community property, and received twenty acres from his father's estate. The management of these holdings has given Mr. and Mrs. Lockie a chance to contribute something towards the development of the agricultural interests of the state, and they have been second to no one in performing their civic duties, especially to the neighborhood in which they live.

The third boy in a family of ten children, J. K. Lockie was born on August 3, 1870. He is the son of the late W. A. and Margaret (Leithead) Lockie, mention of whom is made on another page in this work. He was brought to the States from Canada when three months of age, attended the common schools in Oregon and Texas, and was seventeen or eighteen years old when he came from the Lone Star State. At twenty he started life for himself with a good foundation of useful experience. Until 1906 he worked for the United Railroads in San Francisco, as gripman on the cable-cars, with the exception of a year in the employ of the Spreckels sugar refinery at San Francisco and another year in the service of the United States Government in the Quartermaster's Department in China during the Boxer troubles.

At Victoria, on the Island of Vancouver, on August 31, 1907, Mr. Lockie was united in marriage with Miss Annie Benson, a native of Sydney, Australia, and a daughter of William E. and Janet Lockhead (Houston) Benson. Mr. Benson was an Englishman, and died in Sydney; while Mrs. Benson was of Scotch lineage and is still living in Sydney.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Lockie came to Fresno County in 1907, and they have lived here continuously ever since. He bought and improved his twenty acres, building a fine bungalow house on Lincoln Avenue in 1912, on a pleasantly located knoll; and prosperity has followed him ever since. Besides his forty acres, he leases forty acres adjoining, half in peaches and half in muscats. He has become a live wire in such cooperative work as that of the raisin and peach growers' associations, and is a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc., and not only seeks to avail himself of the last word of science in his work, and the experience of others, but also endeavors by his own success to add to the fund of valuable results.

Mr. and Mrs. Lockie have three children: William E. H., Asa Vern, and Mabel Eugenia. The family attends the Episcopal Church at Selma.

WILLIAM C. THURMAN.—A liberal, enterprising and successful viticulturist of Fresno County, William C. Thurman is a native son of California, born at Upper Lake, Lake County, February 7, 1862. He is a descendant of Revolutionary stock: his great-grandfather, William Thurman, served in that struggle for independence and was present when Cornwallis surrendered. He had a son, also named William, who was born at Lynchburg, Va., December 22, 1776. He wrote a book on the Revolutionary War, and on the agricultural possibilities of that section of country. He made a trip to St. Louis, Mo., died there of yellow fever, and is buried in an unknown grave.



Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Lockie

The father of our subject, Leach Brown Thurman, was a native of Lynchburg, Va. He was a second cousin of Hon. Allan G. Thurman, who was candidate for vice-president of the United States when Grover Cleveland ran for president the second time. When L. B. Thurman was twenty-one years old he left Virginia and went to Missouri, where he spent the winter. The next spring he outfitted with provisions and crossed the plains to California with an ox-team train. He located in Placer County and was the first settler at what became known as Newcastle, where he opened a general merchandise store and conducted it for some time. He then moved his store and continued business at Wisconsin Hill. On account of extending credit to the miners he failed in business. While living in Placer County he married Sarah Jane Franklin, who was born in St. Charles, Ill., a daughter of William and Lydia (Shelby) Franklin, both natives of Kentucky. On her father's side she is a lineal descendant of a brother of Benjamin Franklin, and on the maternal side is related to Governor Shelby of Kentucky, and of Revolutionary stock. The Shelby spoken of in Uncle Tom's Cabin was also a relative. Lydia Franklin was a very intelligent and well-informed woman. William Franklin brought his family across the plains to California and made a settlement in Placer County.

After the marriage of L. B. Thurman he removed to Upper Lake and began farming and developing a raw tract of land. In 1865 he sold out to engage in the mercantile business at Lower Lake. Seven years later he again sold out and removed to Salt Lake City, where he had charge of the buying of ore for the Chicago Smelting Works and also for a refining company of Swansea, Wales, for six years, after which he returned to California. For a short time he was located on a ranch near Lincoln, but upon hearing of the possibilities of irrigation on land in Fresno County, having an opportunity to sell his ranch at a profit, he came to this county in 1889. Here he bought a forty-acre tract, which is now owned by his son, and began making improvements for a permanent home. He did not live to enjoy the fruits of his wise investment, for he died on December 5, 1889. Although he had but very limited advantages to obtain an education, from the age of nine years he was a student, continually searching after knowledge. He read law and was so well versed in it that he was often called upon to settle disputes, and he was always called "Judge." He was a prominent Mason and was Grand Lecturer in his district. His widow survived him and made her home on the ranch until her death, in 1911, aged seventy-two years. Of their six children, five grew to maturity: Clara, Mrs. S. S. McGarvey, who died in Ukiah; William C., of this review; Carey, a resident of Fresno; Bert, who died in Fresno; and Helen, Mrs. Jennings, of Fresno.

William C. Thurman received his education in the public schools and in the Rocky Mountain Seminary in Salt Lake City, entering the latter on the day of its opening. When he was sixteen years old he came back to California; and thereafter, until he was twenty-one, he assisted his father. He then went to San Luis Obispo and for two years served as a fireman on the Pacific Coast Railway, running between San Luis Obispo and Port Harford. In 1886 he went to Placer County, and later worked as a stationary engineer in Sacramento County, after which he spent three years around the bay cities and then for two years ran a reclamation pump near Isleton. In 1890 he came to Fresno to assist his mother with the work on the ranch, and here he has since remained.

When Mr. Thurman came to Fresno County and took charge of the ranch he at once began making improvements by setting out a vineyard, which he has reset at different times. He now has forty acres in raisin grapes of the muscat variety, a family orchard and ornamental trees, a good residence, and a good irrigating system. The ranch is located some nine and one-half miles east of Fresno and is considered one of the very

productive places in the county. About twenty-six years ago, Mr. Thurman's uncle came up from Texas on a visit. He brought with him some Pecan nuts from the trees on his ranch and gave them to the Thurman children. William C. was the only one who kept his. These were planted, and as a result he raised twelve fine bearing trees. Two of these he had to cut out as they were in the way of some improvement he wanted to make. Since living here, Mr. Thurman has improved the ranch, and in the meantime he worked for five years as a stationary engineer at one of the packing houses, during the busy season. Mr. Thurman was a stockholder in the Producers' Packing Company, that erected the large packing house in Fresno; he also holds stock in the Las Palmas Packing Company and is one of the original members of the California Associated Raisin Company, his membership number being forty-nine.

Mr. Thurman's first marriage united him with Alice (Baird) Reid, born at Campbell Mountain, Fresno County, a daughter of Alfred Baird, one of the pioneers of the county. They had a son, Fred, now residing in Fresno. An estrangement led to a divorce. The second marriage occurred in Fresno and united him with Mrs. Maude Lillian (Clark) Freeburg, who was born in St. Charles, Mo., a daughter of Ryland E. Clark, a Kentuckian, who was married in Missouri to Mary Catherine Dorsey, and now lives at Defiance, that state. Of Mr. Thurman's second marriage one son has been born, William Neely Thurman. By a former marriage Mrs. Thurman had the following children: Idell, Mrs. McNab, of Fresno County; and Fred and Florence Clark. Mr. Thurman has always been in favor of good schools and has served for one term as a trustee of the Kutner school district.

J. P. HANSEN.—A successful vineyardist who has not only tilled his own acres but has helped to improve this section for the benefit of everybody who lives hereabouts, is J. P. Hansen, who came to Fresno County at the beginning of the epoch-making eighties. He was born at Fyen, Denmark, on May 24, 1868, the son of Iver Hansen, who was a prosperous farmer known for miles around on account of his trim homestead. The mother, Marie Hansen, raised a large family and saw that they were also well schooled. J. P. Hansen was the second eldest of the nine children, and was one of the earliest of the Hansens to come to America and to California. Reared on his father's farm, and having attended the public school, he swung loose from home and fatherland and, at the tender age of twelve, made the long journey by sea and land until he reached Fresno County, in November, 1880. His first work was in vineyards, and a couple of years later he went to school for two winters. From the first he made his own way; and as he was of a somewhat studious turn of mind, he learned much by private study and reading.

In 1884 his father and the family arrived from abroad, but J. P. Hansen continued to work out on farms and vineyards. He early bought ten acres of land in the West Park, but this he sold. In 1895, in partnership with his brother, H. J. Hansen, he bought a farm outfit and then leased land near Academy, making the deal with the Sacramento Bank Land Company, but the third year was a total failure, and it required courage and hard, persistent effort to make the five years contracted for even an average success. The brothers cleared some profit, however, and having disposed of the outfit, they again leased for a while and then dissolved partnership.

J. P. Hansen then entered the employ of the county and ran the road grader under Supervisor Bullard and Overseer Hotaling. He next bought twenty acres in Wolter's Colony and started in to make a success of viticulture, his acreage being next to that of his brother. Two years later he sold out and leased a place for a year from George E. Taft; and while there he bought his present place of forty acres.



L. C. Trawick

This very desirable property is located one-half mile west of Melvin. In the beginning it was all weeds and sunflowers. In every way possible he improved it, setting out twenty acres the first year, and the same amount the second year. Having first planted wine grapes, he later grafted onto them choice malagas. In his vineyard he now has malaga, wine, and Thompson seedless grapes. He has sunk a well, and installed a pumping plant with a ten-horsepower gasoline engine and a five-inch pump. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and energetically supports the Association's programs. Mr. Hansen was married at Fresno, on January 14, 1904, to Miss Anna Kirsten Anderson, who was born in Fyen, Denmark, the daughter of Anderson H. and Elsie M. Anderson, farmer folk. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have two children living: Iver C. and Marie C. Hansen. Mr. Hansen belongs to the Clovis Lodge of the Odd Fellows, where he is a Past Grand, and to the Fresno Dania. He and his wife enjoy an enviable popularity.

CECIL CALVERT TRAWEEK.—A man who has practically grown up with the section of Fresno County where he now lives, in the vicinity of Dunlap, and a prosperous and progressive rancher, is found in the person of C. C. Traweck, a highly esteemed citizen of California. He was born in Texas, June 27, 1861, the son of S. T. and Nancy Traweck, who were married April 1, 1849, and who became parents of eight children, five of them now living. S. T. Traweck was for a number of years treasurer of Angelina County, Texas, in which county he was recognized as a man of affairs, and when he died, in 1894, he was mourned by a wide circle of friends. His widow, who was born in Nacogdoches County, Texas, June 1, 1826, after a life of great usefulness and loving deeds, passed to her reward on February 16, 1917, leaving a family of five children, thirty-nine grandchildren, sixty-three great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

C. C. Traweck was the sixth child in order of birth in the family of his parents, and he was reared and educated in Texas. At the age of twenty-five he came to California and cast in his lot with the destinies of Fresno County, stopping for a time in the section where the city of Selma is now located. He remained there for some time and for eighteen months was employed by A. T. Stevens as a stage-driver, carrying mail and express. Most of his years in this county have been passed in the vicinity of Dunlap, where in 1893, he homesteaded 160 acres, to which he has added by purchase from time to time until he now has 640 acres of good land. Of this he devotes 150 acres to grain and the balance is grazing and hill land. He is a practical rancher, up-to-date in methods of agriculture, and has lived to see the wonderful changes made in this county with the passing of the years. He has seen Fresno grow from a small hamlet to a city of large and prosperous proportions; has seen the land developed from hog-wallows, sand hills and grain-fields to productive orchards and vineyards that have made Fresno County the best-known county in America, and "to the best of his knowledge and belief" the best county on earth. In all of this transformation he has done his part. So closely is he allied with the county of his adoption that he has not left it except for a short visit back to his old home in Texas, in 1899.

On April 7, 1895, C. C. Traweck and Anna Gertrude Burk, a native daughter of Squaw Valley, were united in marriage. Her father, Richard Burk, was born in Clay County, Ill., July 4, 1849, served as a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War, in Company K, Forty-eighth Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry, Third Brigade. He was with Sherman in his memorable "March to the Sea." After his discharge from the service he returned to his home, but on May 1, 1870, he arrived in California and spent two years in Tulare County. In April, 1872, he came to Squaw Valley and homesteaded 160 acres of land, improved it and is still residing on his property. He added to his original holdings until he owns 352 acres of good land. By his

marriage he became the father of the following children: Anna Gertrude; Floy; Elva L.; Almeda J.; John W.; Henry A.; Oliver M.; and Harold R.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Traweck there have been born four children: Hugh J., born April 22, 1898; Gladys L., born August 19, 1900; Edith M., born November 5, 1902; and Bernice G., born October 22, 1909. They were all born and educated in Fresno County and share with their parents in the good-will and esteem of a large circle of friends. Mr. Traweck is a man of much public spirit and loyally supports all measures for the upbuilding of the county. He is a friend of education and believes in the maintenance of good schools. He has served the people well and acceptably as constable of his district for nearly six years, and wherever he is known he is honored for his integrity, and his home is the center of a true Californian hospitality.

AXEL H. RASMUSSEN.—As a high-class commercial artist and card writer, Axel H. Rasmussen is well known in Fresno. Thrift and foresight, no less than push and enterprise, are distinguishing traits in the character of this young business man of Danish birth. He was born at Aarhus, Denmark, February 5, 1887, and was brought up and educated in the land of his nativity. He attended the Preparatory University School. In 1906, a young man nineteen years of age, he came to America imbued with youth's enthusiasm and hopeful of the bright prospects ever held forth by the New World to her citizens of foreign birth. He came directly to Fresno City, and after trying farming and other lines of work he directed his attention to the profession that appealed to his artistic inclinations—sign painting and illustrating. He was in the employ of Mr. Gus Olson, sign painter, for a time.

Mr. Rasmussen is a natural artist. His first work was done as an illustrator in the advertising matter used when the Kearney Park Boulevard Tract was put on the market, and for one year he was illustrator for the Berg Advertising Agency of Fresno. At present he does all the work for four theaters in Fresno and two theaters in Oakland, the Franklin and the Kinema. The first man to do commercial art work in Fresno, he is also the leader in that line. He has made illustrations for the street car advertising of the Fresno Brewing Company, and the San Joaquin Baking Company of Fresno. He generously devoted his work for the publicity of the Red Cross Drive, the Belgian Relief and United War Work, and also did the greater part of the illustrating for the newspaper advertising for the Liberty Loan drives in Fresno. Since 1914 he has been in business for himself, and has met the well-merited success that his enterprise and careful and artistic work deserve.

In establishing domestic ties Mr. Rasmussen chose one of his countrywomen by birth, who in maidenhood was Miss Sesilie Nielsen. They reside in their cozy, comfortable home at 1766 L Street, Fresno.

THEODORE J. RING.—The oldest resident of Raisin City is Theodore J. Ring, a native of Winston-Salem, N. C., born August 2, 1876. The Ring family is traced back to England; members of the family came to North Carolina about six generations ago. One ancestor served in the Revolutionary war. Grandfather William Jackson Ring was a lieutenant in the Confederate Army in the Civil War. Theodore's father was Lee Ring, a planter at Winston-Salem and later at Elkin, where he died. The mother of Mr. Ring was named Augusta Ridings. She was also of English descent, and her father, Thomas Ridings, also served in the Confederate Army. Lee and Augusta (Ridings) Ring left two children, Theodore J. and his brother Thomas, who still own the old plantation at Elkin and have added to it until it embraces almost 600 acres; it is operated by and in charge of his brother, Thomas Ring.

Theodore Ring had the advantages of the public schools at Elkin. After the completion of his schooling he assisted on the home place until twenty-

four years of age, when he entered the employ of the Southern Railroad, having charge of the freight warehouses at Elkin for a period of two years. While there he was married, on February 25, 1903, to Miss Carrie Sprinkle, a native of Elkin, and the daughter of J. H. and Minerva (Messick) Sprinkle, natives of North Carolina, of Virginian parents. J. H. Sprinkle is a tobacco commission merchant at Elkin, and also the owner of a transfer line, being still actively engaged in business. Of their nine children Mrs. Ring is the fourth.

Deciding to locate in California, the young couple arrived in Caruthers, Fresno County, March 9, 1903. For two years Mr. Ring followed ranching, and then entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad at Armona, and with the use of a speeder filled the duties of track-walker for two years. In April, 1907, he was transferred to Ormus, now Raisin City, as foreman of Section 49, a position he has ably filled ever since. He is now using a gasoline motor car for transporting his crew and supplies over the section. When he came here there was no town, but the same summer Raisin City was laid out and in the fall the hotel and store went up and the Raisin postoffice was established. Mr. and Mrs. Ring have made several trips back to the old home, and as stated before still own a half interest in the old plantation, in which they take much pride. They have six children: Muriel, Mary, Leslie, Jack, Catherine, and Maude. Mr. and Mrs. Ring are enterprising and charitable and always have been ready to assist others less fortunate than themselves. Mrs. Ring is a devout Methodist. Fraternally, Mr. Ring is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Woodmen of the World, and the Junior Order of American Mechanics. Politically he is a Democrat.

VINTON JULIUS CLIFFORD.—A scientific viticulturist who is especially familiar with the problems peculiar to Fresno County and the extension of the California vine industry, and who is high-principled, liberal and affable and therefore enjoys an enviable popularity, is Vinton Julius Clifford, who came to Fresno County in the late eighties, was for seven years a trustee of the Jefferson school district, and long an influential member of the Democratic County Central Committee. He was born near Queen City, Schuyler County, Mo., on March 27, 1869, the son of Nelson Clifford, a native of Athens County, Ohio, who was married in that state and settled in Missouri, where he was a farmer and preempted land. There he died in 1881 when the subject of our sketch was thirteen years old. His wife was Margaret Currier, a native of Indiana and who died in 1879, the mother of eight children: Addison resides in Oklahoma; Hannah, who died June 13, 1919; Mary Olive, who was Mrs. Cole, died at Modesto on March 28, 1916; Charles Henry, who is the Constable and resides near Clovis; Martha J., lives near Hannah; Mrs. R. E. L. Cobb, of Clovis; Vinton Julius, the subject of our review; and Minnie May, now Mrs. Charles T. Reyburn of Clovis.

The second youngest, Vinton J., was brought up in Missouri and as a lad learned to farm, at the same time that he attended the country schools of the district. He stuck at the work until he was nineteen, and then having several sisters who had preceded him to California, he followed and arrived in the land of opportunity, on October 5, 1888. He at once went to work on the grain ranch of J. Cole & Son, with whom he continued for five years.

In the meantime Mr. Clifford had bought twenty acres in the Jefferson district which he set out as a vineyard, and this he sold in less than a year at a good profit. Then he started working on ranches and teaming, and in that continued until 1894 when he undertook to herd lumber in the flume for the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company. He was with the flume company, and later in the mill, where he was a shipping clerk in the box department at Clovis, for ten years; and having saved money, he bought six lots and owned three houses in Clovis, some of which he later sold at a profit. He then bought, for \$2,640, a quarter section of land, and afterward traded it for \$3,000 cash and twenty acres half a mile west of Clovis. Still later he sold the twenty acres, and about the same time quit the mill.

Starting anew, Mr. Clifford bought the Alvin Cole vineyard of twenty acres near Clovis, and ran it for three years, when he sold it to Charles Reyburn. He next bought forty acres in the Reyburn tract and afterward sold the same. Then he bought thirty acres in the Jefferson district, half a mile west of the Jefferson school house, which he improved to vines and ran it. During this time he was in the employ of Supervisorial District No. 2 building bridges and oiling roads; and while the job was a particular one, he remained in charge of the work for eight years. For eight years, also, he bought grapes for the Barton vineyard.

In March, 1918, he bought eighty acres in the Reyburn tract, three miles east of Clovis and in February, 1919, he bought eighty acres adjoining and now has 160 acres which he intends to set out as a vineyard. He has also leased the old Boucher place of sixty acres in the Jefferson district, all in vineyard, where he is raising muscats and Thompson seedless. Thus comfortably and prosperously situated, he can look back with mingled memories; where Clovis now stands was once a grain field, in which he ran big teams and a header, and where he hauled grain.

In Clovis, also, Mr. Clifford was married on December 27, 1899, to Miss Hattie E. Ploetz, a native of Houston, Texas, and a daughter of Gustav and Mary Ploetz, who came to California in 1887 and in 1895 to Clovis, and were noted viticulturists. Mrs. Clifford attended school in Sacramento and Modesto, and Clovis grammar and High Schools.

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford have two children: Gladys M., and Victor Addison, who are both attending Clovis Union High School.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Clifford are members of the Concordia Chapter of the O. E. S. at Clovis, she being a Past Matron, and he a Past Patron and the present Patron. Mrs. Clifford is also a member of San Joaquin Court of Amaranth, No. 27, at Fresno. Mr. Clifford also belongs to the Pine Burr Camp of the Woodmen of the World, at Clovis. In this same town he was made a Mason, in Clovis Lodge No. 417, F. & A. M., and he is a Past Master and also member of the Lodge of Perfection and Rose Croix, in Fresno.

GEORGE WALLACE STEWARD.—A good example of what a man with energy, intelligence and industry may do in Fresno County is to be found in the career of George Wallace Steward, who owns a well-improved and very productive ranch of sixty acres on the Giffen road three and a half miles northeast of Fowler and ten miles southeast of Fresno. He is an Englishman by birth, while his good wife is a native daughter who comes from one of the early and highly respected Danish families of California.

Mr. Steward was born on May 13, 1867, in Hampshire, England, about fifty-two miles south of London, where his father and mother, Joseph and Marian (Bundy) Steward, managed a farm on a twenty-year lease. Joseph Steward was Scotch and his wife was English. George W. grew up in England on his father's farm, until he was seventeen, although he left school at fourteen and was apprenticed to a baker. His mother died when he was only five years of age. After he had come to America, his father followed, and later, having never remarried, died in Indiana at the age of seventy-six. Seven children were born to this worthy couple—four boys and three girls, and George W. was the youngest son.

George W. Steward said good-bye to England, and sailing from Liverpool on the Cunard line, landed at New York on March 3, 1888. He had a brother who was a foreman on a stock-ranch in Benton County, Ind., and engaged to work under him for a celebrated Hereford breeder and importer, and there he remained for three years. In 1891 he came West to California and, being offered employment at twenty dollars a month, settled at Fresno. Seven years later he was married at Fresno to Miss Annie Madsen, born October 31, 1876, the daughter of Peter Madsen of Oleander, who married Catherine Elizabeth Marcussen. They are honored pioneers of Fresno County



Edwin B. Hunt

and, as successful ranchers at Oleander, are closely identified with the life and development of that section.

For a couple of years after he had married, Mr. Steward rented land. Then he bought fifty acres from the Kimball estate, and ten acres adjoining it from Wylie Giffen; and there Mr. and Mrs. Steward have made their home ever since. They have four children: Evelyn Elizabeth, who graduated from the Fowler High School in 1918; Irving Wallace; George Wallace, Jr., born on his grandmother Steward's and his father's birthday, in 1907; and Lillian Dorothy. Mr. Steward is a member and stockholder of both the California Associated Raisin Company, and the Peach Growers, Inc., and also a member of the Farm Bureau of Fowler, and of the Valley Fruit Growers' Association. All the family belong to the First Presbyterian Church of Fowler. Mr. Steward is a naturalized citizen, and in politics is a Progressive Republican.

ELIHU B. HUNT.—A fine old gentleman who has traveled widely, seen much of the every-day world and real life, and derived much valuable experience, is Elihu B. Hunt, who came to Fresno County in 1910, and has ever since wished that he had settled here many years earlier. He was born in Thorndike, Waldo County, Maine, on May 10, 1855, the son of Sumner Hunt, a native of the same place. His grandfather, Ichabod Hunt, was born in Gorham, that state, and was a farmer who served in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. His father, also a farmer, died at Vassalboro, Kennebec County, Maine. He had married Frances Elizabeth Hunt who came from the same vicinity as her husband, and the daughter of Jonathan Hunt of Unity, Maine, a member of the same family, a long way back, and she also died at Vassalboro. There were eight children in their family: Martha, who died in Thorndike, became Mrs. Phillip Blethen, and passed away in March, 1900; Edith, now Mrs. Whitaker, resides at Troy, Maine; Clara is Mrs. John Kennedy, of Vassalboro; Mary was Mrs. G. Burrows, and died in March, 1917, at Waterville; Florence died when very young; Elihu B., who is the subject of this sketch; William A., who is in Thorndike on the old home farm; and Frank P., deceased.

Brought up on one of the good old-fashioned farms, Elihu attended the ordinary country school and the Thorndike high school, and then, from his sixteenth year, taught school two winters. During the summer-time he worked on a farm. Going to Lowell, Mass., he was a night watchman for three years in a cotton mill; and at the end of that time, in 1877, he came west to White Sulphur Springs, Meagher County, Mont., where he contracted for getting out timber and breaking horses. After a while, he succeeded in owning a farm and buying some cattle, but the hard winter "broke" him, and he had to resume work for wages. He became a horseman and for two years was made superintendent of White's ranch; then, for a couple of years, he contracted for carrying the mail from White Sulphur Springs to Neihart.

In 1894, Mr. Hunt moved to Salmon, Idaho, where he at first engaged in lumbering, and then prospected and mined until 1901. Then he went to Globe, Ariz., for a year, and in May, 1902, to Old Mexico, where he worked for four years in mines. Attaining success, he traveled the Republic of Mexico, and was for three years at Medina, owning a ranch and raising corn and fruit.

In May, 1910, Mr. Hunt sold out and came to California and Fresno; and having looked about well, he decided to locate in Tranquillity. He at once purchased twelve acres, improved it and put it into alfalfa; and in 1917 he sold it at a profit and bought his present place of twenty-two acres. This he so improved that now he finds it best to devote it all to the growing of alfalfa. He operates it himself, and so gets the very best results. He used to lease acreage from the San Joaquin Land Company, and raised grain and barley, and in 1917 he harvested eighty-six acres, in the management of which he was more than fortunate.

In Salmon, Idaho, Mr. Hunt was made a Mason in Lemhi Lodge, No. 11, and he is still a member there. In national politics he is a Republican, but in issues for local growth and improvement he is non-partisan. He is popular with his fellow citizens and loyal to the advancement of his town and county.

GUY R. VIGNOLA.—A firm believer in the great future in store for Fresno County, of which he is a native son, Guy R. Vignola was born in Buchanan, June 11, 1884. He is a son of Angelo and Margaret (Lovaroni) Vignola. The father landed in New York at the age of five years, and was raised in that state. In the early fifties he crossed the plains to California, and mined for gold in Mariposa County for a time. He later settled in Fresno County, of which he was one of the pioneers. Here he followed mining, and was a storekeeper, sheepraiser and stockman, owning a large ranch near Buchanan. He also ran a store in Madera County in pioneer days. His death occurred in 1906. To this pioneer couple eleven children were born, as follows: Emile and John, prominent citizens of Turlock County; Julius and Caesar, running the old home ranch at Buchanan; Frank; Mrs. George Wright, of Tuolumne County; Mrs. David Lockton, of Sonoma, Cal.; Mrs. Addie Hanby; Mrs. Vera Holland; Guy R., of this review; and Juliet, who died when eighteen years old.

Guy R. Vignola was raised on the home ranch in Buchanan, and attended the schools of that district, later finishing his education in the grammar school at Raymond, and also taking a course at a college in San Francisco. Always ambitious for further educational advantages, he has continued his studies since his school days, and is at present taking a correspondence school course in law. He engaged in the butcher business at Raymond, and for a time was engaged in newspaper work in Fresno. With W. W. Watson he founded the Fresno Daily Abstract, now called the "Daily Real Estate Reporter," devoted to real estate news transfers, court records and market reports. In 1908 he started in the real estate business in Fresno, and has been very successful in that line. He specializes in large ranch properties, and has sold and exchanged many large parcels of land in the county. A resident of Fresno County since his birth, Mr. Vignola has a thorough knowledge of conditions and values in this section, and his success has followed as a matter of course. Meanwhile he has been aiding in the development of the resources of his native county.

J. R. CAIN.—Success in business does not entirely depend upon financial ability; in the retail business especially, the courteous treatment of prospective customers and the genial smile, coupled with an intelligent and comprehensive knowledge of the merchandise and efficient management of the establishment, are very essential factors to success. J. R. Cain, the subject of this sketch, possesses these qualifications in a pleasing degree, and to them he attributes a large measure of his success in the furniture and undertaking business. He is a native of the Hoosier State, having been born in Indiana in 1874; but he was reared and educated in Kansas, to which state his parents removed in 1881, and where they resided up to 1908, when they migrated to California. They are now residents of Fresno County. Mr. and Mrs. William Cain were the parents of seven children, only three of whom are living: C. P., R. L., and J. R.

J. R. Cain migrated to California in 1900, and for two years lived in Sonoma County. In 1902 he removed to Fresno County, where he has since resided and carried on a prosperous business. He has been engaged in the furniture business for sixteen years. During twelve years of this time he conducted business in Selma, and for five years he has been located in Sanger. During the last six years he has conducted an undertaking establishment in connection with his furniture business. His furniture and undertaking room in Sanger is fifty by one hundred feet in size, and in addition to this he has a workshop forty by forty feet. In 1916 Mr. Cain was appointed

a deputy coroner of Fresno County. While living in Selma his business ability was recognized by the citizens of that enterprising city, by his election to the city council.

In 1889 J. R. Cain was united in marriage with Miss Birdella M. Howard, the daughter of F. A. Howard; and they are parents of one daughter, Alta Marie. They also have a foster daughter, Joybelle, who enjoys the full privileges and domestic relations of a daughter.

Mr. Cain and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Cain is the superintendent of the Sunday school, and in 1918 he was made the president of the Fresno County Sunday School Association. Fraternally, he is a Mason, being affiliated with Sanger Lodge, No. 316, F. & A. M.

JUDGE E. W. RISLEY.—In the passing of Judge E. W. Risley, prominent for many years in the political and civic life of Fresno, the city lost one of her most highly respected and useful citizens. He was born in New Haven, Conn., March 1, 1853, and was a direct descendent of Richard Risley, founder of Hartford, Conn., in the year 1635. When a lad he went to Galesburg, Ill., and at the age of twenty-one graduated from Knox College, having also studied law during the last two years of his college life. In 1874 he started West, his goal being California. During the silver boom he sought a foothold in Nevada and in California, from Shasta to San Diego.

Judge Risley's name, before he came to Fresno, was woven conspicuously into the story of Arizona's rapid development. At the time of the great mineral discoveries in Tombstone, Ariz., he went over the desert by pack train and met with the usual vicissitudes of the pioneer, sometimes a millionaire in his mind and sometimes a pauper in fact. At one time he was official court reporter of the entire Territory of Arizona, which necessitated his traveling from one end of the territory to the other in the performance of his official duties. He was also a deputy United States marshal and deputy district attorney of Cochise County, wherein was situated the city of Tombstone, and was clerk of the board of supervisors of Pima County. During his stay in Tucson he became, in turn, deputy United States district attorney and member of the Tucson city council, and saw the change of Tucson from a Spanish pueblo to a modern American city. As a member of the territorial legislature, later, he was chairman of the judicial and appropriations committees.

Judge Risley came to Fresno in 1885, and was at once admitted to the Supreme Court of the State of California and to the United States Supreme Court. He was deputy district attorney of Fresno County under Firman Church and W. D. Tupper, and as city attorney under the old Spinney regime did much to maintain order and keep the two factions from an open rupture, insisting upon the enforcement of the city ordinances. For six years he served as superior judge of Fresno County; and of the many decisions he rendered, many of them on murder charges, not one was ever reversed by the Supreme Court. At the close of his term, although earnestly solicited by his many friends to continue in office, he declined, wishing to devote his time and energy to his private affairs. Notwithstanding this decision, he took an active part, as a freeholder, in making the existing city charter, and acted as police and fire commissioner for four years.

Judge Risley's wife was before her marriage Miss Eleanor Merrill, a native of Illinois. She died in 1913. Judge Risley died on December 15, 1918, and his funeral services were conducted at the crematory by his life long friend, Judge M. K. Harris. Judge Risley's request was that at death there should be no flowers, "but dust unto dust, and unto dust to lie without glory, without pomp, without end." He was eminently worthy of the honor and respect accorded him by his friends and colleagues, who mourn his untimely demise. The judge is survived by his son, Thomas E., of Fresno, and a daughter, Mrs. Marguerite Rowe, of Los Angeles.

NORTHMAN C. LIVINGSTON.—Northman C. Livingston was born in Claremont, N. H., January 2, 1862, the younger of two children born to Sherman and Zilpha (Keith) Livingston, natives of New Hampshire and Pomfret, Vt., respectively, who spent their last days in the latter state. He was brought up in New Hampshire until eighteen years of age, and there had the advantages of the public schools. When eighteen years of age he removed to Pomfret, Vt., and engaged in farming until he located in Hartford, Vt., where for seven years he ran a harness establishment. Next he engaged in the furniture and undertaking business in the same city for a time. After selling out this business he assisted in the management of a hotel, and then for a while was employed in the woolen mills. Returning to the farm in Vermont, he operated the place for seven years.

On account of his wife's health, Mr. Livingston came to California, arriving in Pasadena in 1907. After a year in that city he came to Raisin City, Fresno County, in 1908, where he engaged in general merchandise, purchasing the location and improving the store building. A few years ago he closed out the dry goods and groceries and now has a hardware and implement store. Since 1908 he has been postmaster, and he has had the telephone exchange since the company built their line into Raisin City.

Mr. Livingston was bereaved of his wife in September, 1916. She was a woman of amiable disposition, and will be long mourned by her relatives and friends. Mr. Livingston is the oldest merchant in Raisin City, and is well liked and popular as a public official and merchant. He was made a Mason in Woodstock Lodge, No. 31, F. & A. M. His political preference is with the Democratic party.

MARIUS and HARRY GIRAUD.—Two very successful viticulturists, well-liked and respected, are Marius and Harry Giraud, natives of Avancou, the Hautes-Alpes, France, where their father, Jacques, was also born. He was a cooper, who had his own farm and forest, and used to go himself to get out the material for his staves and heads. He also had a finely appointed vineyard; and on his place, a joy as well as a means of support to him, he died, in 1908. His good wife, Angelena Senturie before her marriage, was also a native of the Hautes-Alpes, and survived her husband three months. Seven children were born to this worthy couple. The eldest was Marius, of whom we are writing; then came Emil, who is still in France; the third was Harry, who also figures in our story; and the others are Mary, Felice, and Gabriele, also resident in their native land, and Ferdinand, who was killed in December, 1914, while serving as a soldier at Nieuport, Belgium—a sacrifice for the cause of freedom and justice which reflects the highest glory on the family name. Marius was born on March 11, 1865, and Harry on the 11th of November, two years later. They were both reared in France, and while attending the public schools of their neighborhood, learned the details of vineyard work.

In 1888 Marius Giraud came to Los Angeles and went to work on the railroad. The next year he made his way to Fresno, and for a month found employment on the Fresno sewer. At Christmas he got a job pruning vines, and soon he formed a partnership with Mr. Telmond and for a year busied himself with contract pruning. Then, for four years, he was with Louis Almand, pruning in Fresno, Kings, and Tulare counties. In December, 1893, Harry Giraud came out to California from France, and thereafter the brothers continued pruning together. From 1901 to 1905 Marius was in business in Fresno; when he sold-out, he went in with his brother on a vineyard of twenty acres near the mountains, in the Helm Colony, and this was managed under the firm name of Giraud Bros. Harry had purchased the twenty acres in 1902, and the following year he set out the vineyard. To this they have given the closest attention, raising only wine-grapes. Marius also bought, together with his brother, forty acres of raw land a mile west of

this place, and set the same out to muscatel, Malaga and Thompson grapes, raising the vines from cuttings, and allowing five acres for alfalfa. Now the brothers have sixty acres of as choice and rich vineyard soil as can be found anywhere. They have always been actively interested in the various raisin association movements, and they are supporters of the California Associated Raisin Company. Though born in France, they are not indifferent to the political interests of their adopted country. They generally march under the Republican banner; but when it comes to local issues, they are for Fresno and Central California, the best men and the best measures.

EMIL KREYENHAGEN.—Reputed to be among the largest land-owners and stock-raisers of Fresno County, is Kreyenhagens, Inc., one of whom, Emil Kreyenhagen, the subject of this review, was born in St. Louis, Mo., December 1, 1853. He is the son of Gustav and Julia (Ilering) Kreyenhagen, both natives of Hanover, Germany. The father immigrated to the United States in 1846 after having received the advantages of a thorough education in his native land. Being especially proficient in languages and mathematics he became a professor of Latin, Greek and mathematics, in St. Louis, Mo., where he made his home for some years and while a resident of the metropolis of Missouri four children were born, all of whom died there, except the subject of this review, Emil Kreyenhagen. In January, 1854, Gustav, with his wife and infant son Emil, migrated from Missouri to California, coming via the Isthmus of Panama and arriving at San Francisco. Here, for a time, he operated a general merchandise store. In 1860 he located on a ranch six miles east of Gilroy and at the same time he operated the Peach Tree ranch in Monterey County, for four years. Here he engaged in sheep-raising, but the fates seemed unpropitious, as a disastrous flood overtook his flock and nearly all of his herd was lost. Afterwards, in the year 1865, Gustav Kreyenhagen removed to Los Banos, in Merced County, and while living there ran not only a store, but was the proprietor of a hotel and kept a stage station. Los Banos was at that time a large center for freighters who were engaged in hauling supplies through the valley with large teams of mules and horses, this being the only means of transportation before the advent of the railroad.

December 1, 1874, Emil Kreyenhagen had located at what was then Posa Chena, now Kirk Station, east of what is now Coalinga, Fresno County, and in 1875 his father and family also came and located at Posa Chena and engaged in stock-raising. Here the father kept a store and hotel and engaged in raising sheep and cattle on a large scale. After a long and eventful career he retired from active participation in business affairs in 1887, and three years later passed away to his eternal reward, bereaved by a large circle of friends and five surviving children: Emil; Hugo; Mrs. Bertha Welker; Adolph; and Charles. His widow survived him till August 2, 1906.

Emil Kreyenhagen is the eldest of the family and was reared in California from his first year. He received his education in the public schools of Gilroy and at St. Joseph's Academy, Oakland. He assisted his father in his varied business at Los Banos until they sold out, and when nineteen years of age, in 1874, he came to Posa Chena, Fresno County. He liked the appearance of the country and in 1875 the rest of the family joined him. They then began the stock business which has since grown to such large proportions. The brothers continued in partnership all these years, working together in harmony, and on July 14, 1916, they incorporated as Kreyenhagens, Inc., he being the president of the company. The company owns 10,000 acres of land and leases 37,000 from the Southern Pacific Railway Company and from individuals. The three ranches they own are known by their Spanish names, Los Canoas, Zapato Cheno, and Las Polvaderas, and are located southeast of Coalinga. The Kreyenhagens are also interested in

the Hays Cattle Company, of Kirkland, Ariz., and at one time owned and managed the Crescent Meat Market and City Market at Coalinga. In early days they did teaming, hauling freight to and from Posa Chena to Gilroy and Banta Station, using from eight to ten-horse teams for the freighting, sometimes taking ten days to make a round trip and upon their return trip bringing merchandise and supplies. The year 1918 finds these enterprising brothers farming 1,400 acres of land, on the plains, to grain. Emil Kreyenhagen filled the position of postmaster at Turk Station, also at Rogers post-office, Hot Springs. Fraternally, he was made a Mason in Welcome Lodge, No. 255, F. & A. M. at Lemoore.

Emil Kreyenhagen was united in marriage with Lucy Hathaway at Lemoore, on December 15, 1881. She was born in Coulterville, Mariposa County, the daughter of Fielding and Eliza (Davis) Hathaway, natives of Virginia and Texas, respectively. They crossed the plains with ox teams in 1858, locating on the Merced River where Mr. Hathaway ran a flour mill. In 1865 they moved to Visalia where he was a contractor and builder and built the old Visalia House. On account of his wife's health he removed to the mountains in 1874, being engaged in stock-raising near Mineral King, and there his wife died in 1875. He then returned to Visalia and later lived retired at Lemoore, where he died at the age of ninety-two years. Mrs. Kreyenhagen was educated in the public schools of Visalia and her union with Mr. Kreyenhagen has been blessed with two daughters: Gertrude, Mrs. C. G. Barton, who resides in Hanford, and who was educated in Easton High School and Heald's Business College, Fresno; and Leona M., who was educated at Mills College and then a graduate of the Riverside Library School, after which she taught school in Hanford, and who is now the wife of Carrol V. Buckner of Lemoore.

A pioneer of the Valley, Mr. Kreyenhagen has in his modest and quiet way been a real upbuilder and developer of Fresno County, and he is today reaping the fruits of his labors, and is esteemed by all who know him, for his integrity, worth and honesty of purpose.

NILS E. LARSON.—A sturdy old-timer who came to Fresno County in the early eighties is Nils E. Larson, to whom there is probably no document of more precious value than the honorable discharge which certifies that although he was born in Arebre, Sweden, November 8, 1859, he served awhile in the United States Navy and so won for himself the right to American citizenship. His father was Frederick Larson, a farmer known for miles around on account of his experience, his industry, and his honor, and as the second youngest of six children, three of whom are still living, Nils enjoyed all of the educational advantages that the first-class public schools of Sweden could afford. He was reared on a farm, and he learned farming thoroughly, as it is followed in his native land.

When he was sixteen years of age Nils enlisted in the Swedish Navy, and for three years he followed the sea under the flag of a country long famous for its brave and well trained seamen. He learned marine engineering, and as a skilled mechanic and machinist made several lengthy voyages on different ships. He visited Philadelphia and New York, and sailed around Cape Horn; and through his intercourse with the peoples of other countries than his own he mastered everyday English and picked up some knowledge of other languages as well. Having received an honorable discharge, he concluded to leave Sweden and to try his fortune in the New World.

In 1878, Mr. Larson landed at New York City and immediately enlisted as a marine engineer in the United States Navy, in which position he served the Union for three years. He was appointed, in time, to five or six different ships, went around Cape of Good Hope, sailed to China, and then returned to Philadelphia by way of the same Cape. He went around Cape Horn to San Francisco, and in that city, in 1881, he received his honorable dismissal.

Thereupon Mr. Larson went to Port Costa, where he worked in a warehouse for a year; and on the fourth of July, 1882, he reached Fresno and soon after began to engage in grain farming. He drove the big teams in the grain fields, and he teamed to the mountains, and from the upper regions he hauled lumber, using at times from eight to twenty-two mules and horses in a single team.

In 1884 he took up a homestead of 160 acres at Tollhouse, and at the same time engaged to work for John Haskel, on whose ranch he remained seven years. He then started grain farming twelve miles south of Fresno on Elm Avenue, and leased 3,500 acres from A. A. Weber. He used six big teams; but the year proving a very dry one he harvested scarcely two and a half sacks to the acre and lost everything except a span of horses. He bought more horses on credit, however, came to Academy, leased land of D. C. Sample, beginning with 600 acres, and increasing the area to 2,200, and ran four big teams with a combined harvester drawn by twenty-four head of horses. He cut other grain, and sowed and reaped 1,600 acres a year, finally meeting with success. For the first six years he could hardly make expenses, selling wheat as low as sixty cents per hundred and thirteen dollars a ton for barley, but he persisted and overcame the handicaps which seemed insurmountable.

While operating there, fourteen years ago, Mr. Larson bought his present place of 150 acres in the Gray Colony; and after he had farmed the same to grain for three or four years he moved onto it and began to improve the land. He had already leveled it, and had planted forty acres to alfalfa; then he put out a vineyard of sixty acres, and the same year set out twenty acres in orchard. Since then he has planted more than forty acres, and has altogether a ranch of 152 acres, twelve miles from Fresno. He has over 100 acres in vines distributed to Thompson, sultana, muscat and wine grapes, and twenty-five acres in peaches. He has an orange avenue leading to his residence, and a small and useful orchard at the house. He holds membership in the California Peach Growers' Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company.

At Oakland, in 1909, Mr. Larson was married to Miss Meta Husted, who was born in Denmark; and by her he had three children: Nils Frederick, Margaret C. and Christen H. Larson. Mrs. Larson passed away in May, 1918. Mr. Larson is a Republican in national political movements.

L. M. JENSEN.—An industrious and experienced farmer and a broadly developed viticulturist and horticulturist, making a specialty of raisin culture, is L. M. Jensen, who was born at Fyen, Denmark, December 10, 1877, the son of a farmer near Bogense, where he was reared and educated in the public school. When he was only four years of age his mother died, and when he was six he was thrown on his own resources, and thus made his own way through the schooling period until he was fourteen, and from that time on. Through the return of a friend, Hans Frank, he became acquainted with the wonderful land by the Pacific and its resources, and concluded to take the momentous step of leaving home, crossing the wide ocean, and trying his fortunes in the New World. On April 28, 1902, he arrived in Fresno County, and immediately found employment at ranching in the vicinity of Selma. Soon he bought a small farm near Parlier, consisting of about twelve acres, at the price of \$600. This he set out to vines, kept it a couple of years, and then sold it for \$1,250. He continued to work on farms and with teams, and leasing some land of D. C. Sample, he tried his hand at grain-farming.

In 1913, Mr. Jensen bought a vineyard of seventy-two acres in the Gray Colony, which he improved considerably and built upon. He set out thirty acres as a vineyard with muscat, Emperor and malaga grapes, and thirty acres in figs of the White Adriatic kind, while he had ten acres of peach orchards. He has two pumping plants, and uses two engines for pumping.

Like other wide-awake specialists in his field, he is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

Near Academy, Mr. Jensen was married to Miss Carrie M. Frikka, a native of Kolding, Denmark, by whom he has had four children: Elna Marie, Louis Christian, Clarence James, and Ann Christene. For some time past Mr. Jensen has been a trustee of the Gray school district, and in that capacity has done good public service for the community. In national politics he generally follows the standards of the Democratic party, while in fraternal life he is active principally in the Dania in Fresno and the Clovis Camp of the Woodmen of the World.

JOHN H. FUNCH.—A very interesting and worthy old-timer in California, the story of whose life, with its numerous narrow escapes, runs like a veritable romance, is John H. Funch, who came to the Golden State in 1869. He was born at Bornholm, Denmark, on August 30, 1855, the son of P. G. Funch who was a sailor and a ship-carpenter by trade. In 1847 the elder Funch sailed with a Spanish ship around the Horn, and at San Francisco he left the vessel and made for the interior. At Sutter's Mill he helped construct the water wheel, and so he was present at the time when John Marshall discovered gold in the mill-race. He engaged in placer mining with great success, until he acquired over \$30,000; his shipmate and fellow-carpenter, Hans Munk, had as much more. The Spaniard who owned the grant returned from Mexico, had them arrested and brought to San Francisco where the court released them, deciding that one could dig gold where it was found. Hans Munk sat at a gaming-table, and staked what he had, and—unusually, perhaps—doubled his small fortune. P. G. Funch started for his old home in Denmark, once more sailing around the Horn, but it was two years more before Hans Munk returned. Arriving safely home, P. G. Funch bought a large farm, and managed it until he died. In time, his good wife, Nora Sode, also passed away in their comfortable, hard-won home, the mother of twelve children, among whom John H., now the only one in California, was the second oldest.

John H. was reared in Denmark until he was fourteen years of age, during which time he attended the thorough Danish schools; but having two uncles in San Francisco, he left his native land, a mere boy, and crossed the ocean and the great American continent. Arrived in San Francisco, he resumed his schooling, but one day in the classroom proved enough for his nerves, and so he quit and made off for Sacramento. There he commenced to work out at different jobs, but he soon went to Virginia City, Nev., where he secured five dollars a day at mining in the Comstock and Yellow Jacket mines, on an eight-hour shift. Even at ten dollars a day, the wear and tear proved too much; he broke down and had to quit. His next work was in Washoe upon a big flume, but there he contracted rheumatism. He then went to Unionville and Hot Springs and there recovered. Taking to stage-driving, he ran the mountain stage from Unionville to Winnemucca station, thirty-five miles, receiving for his services \$125 a month. But again he was afflicted with rheumatism, and he was forced to return to San Francisco and resume doctoring. Fortunately, he found a physician who was able to effect relief and he recovered, in the meantime taking a trip to Honolulu.

In 1872, Mr. Funch came to the San Joaquin Valley, into what was then called Fresno, but is now Madera County. He worked on the Friedlander ranch for a year, and then helped to construct a flume to Madera. When this was completed, he engaged in farming, taking up a preemption claim near Borden; then he bought land and raised grain. He built up a big agricultural enterprise, and had an extensive outfit. He bought additional land at \$1.50 an acre, until he had four sections, of 640 acres each, or 2,560 acres. The first great crop he shipped to Contra Costa, but it had no sooner arrived



J. H. Funch

there than it was burned in a big warehouse fire, and he suffered a total loss. He therefore let the land go and abandoned farming. Then he came to Fresno and began to contract for leveling and ditching, along with Hank Horn. He also engaged in threshing and harvesting. He helped build the San Joaquin ditch, and took 240 acres for pay. When the Church Canal went through, it was located on his land, but the ditch did not pan out successfully, crops failed, and he lost out again.

On September 25, 1891, Mr. Funch married, at Fresno, Mary Bergman, who was born at Lulao Norlan, Sweden, and then he located on his present place, beginning with twenty acres in the Parent Colony No. 2. Mrs. Funch was the daughter of Adolph and Carrie (Hjemdal) Bergman, and her father was a sea-captain, who sailed in the coasting trade and on the Mediterranean, and who went down with his ship off the coast of Spain. The bereaved wife, her mother, still resides at the old home, the mother of three devoted children, of whom Mrs. Funch is the second oldest. In September, 1881, she came to Burlington, Iowa, to an uncle, then after a stay in Illinois, moved west to Nebraska. During the boom year she reached San Diego, and on April 10, 1891, came north to Fresno.

The land Mr. Funch bought was hogwallow, that had never been plowed, and he first plowed and later leveled it. He improved it as a vineyard and an orchard, and built a fine residence and the usual barns and outbuildings. Since then he bought other land adjoining. He had seventy acres, but he sold twenty, and now has fifty, five miles north of Fresno. About twenty acres are laid out as a vineyard, and eight acres as orchard, while the balance is given up to alfalfa and pasture. For a while he had a small dairy. He has a fine pumping-plant, as well as water from the Enterprise Ditch. Always keenly interested in everything that pertains to progress, Mr. Funch takes an active part in the California Associated Raisin Company.

Eight children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Funch: Helga is Mrs. Wilmath, and resides at Fresno; J. P. was in the United States Army, serving overseas in the Three Hundred Sixteenth Engineers Train, Ninety-first Division, being in the battles of Saint Mihiel, Meuse, Argonne and Lys; Mamie is a graduate of the Fresno State Normal, and is teaching in the Wolters school; Allen served in the aviation and signal corps of the United States Army; Edward and Fred are assisting in the ranch work; and there are Frank and William. The family is noted for its neighborliness and its genuine hospitality.

Mr. Funch has shown himself to be a public-spirited citizen, ever willing to serve his fellow citizens, for some years serving as school trustee in the Houghton district. In national politics, he is a Democrat, but he believes that in local affairs party lines should be disregarded, and he has done what he could to make a united community, wherein each is interested in its advancement.

It may not always be easy to get Mr. Funch to talk about the stirring events connected with himself and his adventurous father, but when he does, he always has a good story to tell. One of these is the stage-robbery that occurred when he was driving the bus. He recognized the robbers as Unionville gamblers and promptly reported them; but political pull prevented their getting their just deserts. The gamblers then swore that they would "get" him on the next trip, and such a fate was averted only by the alertness of Mr. Benson, the Wells Fargo agent, and the post master, who started him out of town at midnight, hours in advance, so that he went through safely. Sad to relate, the driver who took his place the next day was killed on the run!

BONIE BENJAMIN HERMAN.—A native son who has made an enviable record in the stock-raising business is Bonie B. Herman, who is a native of Fresno City, born January 22, 1880. His father, Ezekiel Herman, was also a native son, born in Los Angeles, who, riding the range from a boy, became a well-posted and experienced stockman. He was in the employ of Miller and Lux, and afterwards of Jeff James, and is now with the San Joaquin Farms Land Company. The mother of Bonie, Eliza Johnson before her marriage, was born in Stockton, and died at San Joaquin, leaving six children, of whom Bonie B. is the second oldest.

Bonie Benjamin Herman was reared in Riverdale and Caruthers, and received a good education in the public schools. While still a youth he began riding after cattle, on the Burrell estate. When thirteen years of age, in 1893, he entered the employ of Jeff James at San Joaquin, and has continued on the ranch ever since; and he has had no time off except two short leaves of absence. In due time he became foreman of stock under Mr. James, a position he held until Mr. James' death, continuing in the same capacity until the ranch was sold to B. F. Graham, who incorporated the San Joaquin Farms Land Company, and Mr. Herman has been foreman of the stock department ever since, having charge of about 5,000 head of cattle and a herd of horses that range over 35,000 acres.

Mr. Herman was married in Fresno to Miss Carrie Morano, born in Yuma, Ariz., but reared in Fresno County. They have four children: Florence, Lottie, Maggie, and Ralph. Fraternally, Mr. Herman is a member of Fresno Lodge, No. 186, I. O. O. F.

T. H. FLINT.—This hard-working and eminently practical rancher, while most successfully developing his valuable property in one of the very best raisin sections in Fresno County, has introduced a method by which he can raise a good crop of alfalfa among his trees without lessening the production of fruit, thus maintaining more cows and stock and incidentally securing a greater supply of valuable fertilizer for his orchards. He owns 120 acres one mile south and one mile west of Del Rey, on Lincoln Avenue, where he has developed one of the show-places of Central California.

T. H. Flint was born in Davis County, Mo., on November 19, 1865, and when seven years of age was taken by his parents to Cass County, Nebr. His father, John L. Flint, who is now living in Fowler, farmed for two years in Nebraska and then removed with his family to Kansas, but only for a season, after which he went back to Nebraska, this time settling in Saline County, where he became a large landowner, having had at one time two large stock farms; and here our subject grew up. His mother, whose maiden name was Mary Alley, and who was born in Indiana, as was his father, is also still living at Fowler. She is seventy-four years of age, and the father is two years older. Four children were born to these devoted parents, and all are still living. Thomas H. is sketched in this review; George M. was the second in the order of birth; Minnie is the wife of F. E. Wells, the mayor of Fowler, whose life-story is elsewhere given; and the youngest is Merlie, who resides two miles northeast of Selma.

Thomas Flint had his first schooling in Missouri, at the public schools in Cass and Saline Counties, after which he conned his books in Nuckolls County, Nebr., and at Fairfield, in Clay County, of the same state. At the latter place he also attended the Christian College. He had worked a year at the carpenter business in Saline County, and then moved to Nuckolls County, where he lived for twelve years, working for three years at his trade. There, too, in 1887, he was married, and for some years he farmed rented land. His parents came to California in 1890, although two years after they came out to Brown's Madeira Colony they moved back to Nebraska. They did not remain long in the Middle West, however, but sold their holdings, and in 1894 returned to the Pacific Coast. In 1897 Thomas

decided to follow them West; and when he arrived here, he went to work near Selma. He teamed the first year; and then, in 1899, in Kings River Bottom, farmed corn on rented land.

In 1900 Mr. Flint moved onto his present place, which he at first rented for a year. It was wild with Johnson grass, and the orchard and vines had been badly neglected. Through painstaking and patient labor, he now has thirty-five acres planted to Thompson Seedless grapes, twenty acres to muscats, twenty-one acres in bearing peaches, ten acres in prunes and plums, five acres in young peaches, twenty acres in alfalfa, three acres in Kelsey Japan plums, and seven acres in prunes. In various ways, including his novel method of irrigating the alfalfa, Mr. Flint has made of his ranch a model farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Flint have been blessed with eight children. Fay is the wife of W. W. Frame, the rancher, who resides at Wild Flower, southwest of Selma; Doris, the third in order of birth, married F. E. Thornton, the well-known rancher of Madera; Ora is a farmer at Wild Flower, and took for his wife Amada Giblin; Goldie and Carmon are at high school in Fresno; and Muriel is in college at Los Angeles. Royce, the second-born, passed away when he was at the promising age of seventeen; and Ivan also died young. The family attend the Christian Church at Fowler, and are active in that society's good works.

EDDIE A. JOHNSON.—An enterprising, progressive native son, wide-awake to every opportunity for advancement in business, and equally ambitious for the righteousness of the community, Eddie A. Johnson enjoyed a pleasant and enviable popularity. He was born in the middle eighties, a son of Eric Johnson, who was born at Carlskoga, Vermlan, on December 6, 1846. When only seventeen, Eric Johnson came to the United States and prepared to settle in Illinois; but unable to resist the call of the Union, he enlisted in the Civil War as a member of an Illinois regiment, and served until the close of the struggle, when he received an honorable discharge. For six or seven years he continued to farm in Illinois, near Chicago, and then returned for a visit to Sweden. The stay in his native land lasted a couple of years, and at its conclusion he returned to Chicago. When California was being boomed in the East, incidental to the Philadelphia Centennial, he came West to San Francisco and hired out as a conductor on the old cable street-railway. Tiring at length of this occupation, and having saved a snug sum from his wages, five years later he looked about for the best opportunity of getting "back to the land." He came to Fresno County to buy land and settle; and after securing forty acres in the Scandinavian Colony, he set to work to improve the same. Later he sold his holding and bought the present Johnson place, taking possession in 1883. He began with twenty acres, and a year later added twenty more; and he set out all the tract as a vineyard, placing there muscat and Malaga vines. He also built himself a residence and the customary outbuildings, and set out a variety of choice trees. On September 26, 1885 he was married at Fresno to Miss Kate Peterson, a daughter of Sweden who was born near Carlstad, Vermlan. In 1882 she came to California and soon after, at Fresno, met Mr. Johnson. Four children blessed their union. The eldest is Eddie, the subject of our sketch; Paul and Hulda are on the home farm; while David died at the age of twelve.

The demise of Eric Johnson occurred on May 7, 1915, at which time the Swedish Mission Church of Fresno, of which he was both a member and an organizer, lost one of its most faithful supporters, he having continued a trustee or deacon until his death. Mr. Johnson was for some time a member of the G. A. R., and in politics was a Republican.

After her husband's death, Mrs. Johnson, aided by her children, continued to manage the ranch of forty acres, to which they added twenty.

making a very valuable tract of sixty acres, six miles north of Fresno. They have also improved and now own forty acres of the Colonial Helm tract. Mrs. Johnson and the family attend the Swedish Mission Church at Fresno. They have many friends, and the home is a center of hospitality.

Eddie Johnson was born in the old home on September 13, 1886, attended the public grammar schools of his district, and finally graduated from the Chestnutwood Business College. He enjoyed the advantages of every lad who has the good fortune to grow up in Central California, and from his boyhood was acquainted with the important details of vineyarding. In 1910 he located on the place, which his father had bought without any improvements. He bought twenty acres of the estate, built himself a fine residence, and set and reset his vineyard, planting sultanas, Thompsons and wine grapes, and making a model vineyard; and he also leased his sister's place of twenty acres. Interested in the larger field of viticulture, he associated himself with the California Associated Raisin Company, of which he was the local correspondent.

During a visit at Berkeley, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Pauline Boquist, a native daughter of San Francisco, and now the mother of his three children—Eddie Leroy, Robert Adolph and a baby. Mrs. Johnson's father, Sven Boquist, was a native of Sweden, who came to California and here married Hilda Sophia Nordstrom. She was born in Helsingborg, Skam, Sweden, and came to Chicago and later to San Francisco, where she died, aged twenty-seven years, in 1888. Pauline was the only child, and after her mother's death she was reared by her aunt, Carrie Nordstrom, and was educated in the grammar and high schools. She learned the milliner's trade in San Francisco, which she followed there until her marriage. In religious work, Mr. Johnson's influence was widely felt as a deacon of the Swedish Mission Church in Fresno, while in politics he maintained an independent, public-spirited attitude toward the questions of the day, refusing to be bound by any party platform. He died December 19, 1918, a victim of influenza.

EDWARD COOPER SWIGART.—A varied experience in life, giving one a fair knowledge of human nature, becomes a valuable asset in anticipating and supplying the wants of a community, as is shown by the life-story of Edward Cooper Swigart, the well-known merchant at Academy, who has built up both his reputation and his fortune by plain, honest dealing in the face of the usual severe competition, which will, sooner or later, sift the chaff from the grain. He was luckily born, for he is a native son, having first seen the light near Tehachapi, Kern County, on August 18, 1878; and he came to Academy when he was six years of age, and until he was thirteen he attended school there.

Mr. Swigart at first went into farming and mining, and then became interested in stock-raising, after which he ranched for himself. In 1902 he was elected constable of the Tenth Judicial District, and he held the office two terms. During this period he sold his cattle, and in 1907 went into the general merchandise business, establishing himself at Letcher; and for six years he served as assistant postmaster.

In 1913, having purchased ten acres on the site of Academy, with its buildings, Mr. Swigart moved his stock of merchandise to that place and has since continued in business there. Aside from the store, he has a blacksmith shop and garage. He also owns sixty acres of land just above Academy where he is installing a pumping plant preparatory to setting out an orchard and vineyard. Since 1913 he has been the postmaster at Academy. There are postmasters and postmasters, but Mr. Swigart is of the sort that endeavors, while doing his full duty to the national government, to secure the very best service, and plenty of it, for the community in which he lives and thrives. He is a Democrat, has long held an enviable position in local democratic



E. C. Sargent

councils, and has given an excellent administration of the office of deputy county clerk.

Mr. Swigart's general merchandise establishment, now so widely known for miles around, is the only establishment in the neighborhood aiming to carry such a stock, and to serve the community in that manner. Wide experience, with both local needs and the best markets from which supplies are to come, is necessary to make a store of this kind a success; and it is pleasing to learn that the efforts of this California merchant to place the best of everything before his customers, and at the lowest tariff that the various conditions will permit, have been so thoroughly appreciated by the citizens of Academy, and their patronage means that they intend to support a store that has always so well considered their future as well as their immediate necessities.

September 6, 1899, witnessed the marriage of Edward Cooper Swigart and Fannie L. Kirch, a union that has brought much happiness to both of the fortunate parties. The bride is a native of the city of Fresno, and as the daughter of well-known pioneers she will certainly always deserve the right hand of California fellowship. Two children, Ella May and Gloria Lucile, have come to bless the Swigart home and to share with the parents the cordial good-will of all. The former is a graduate of Heald's Business College and now the wife of W. R. Simpson who served overseas in the United States Army; they make their home at Academy.

Mr. Swigart is a member of the Fresno Lodge of Eagles. He was chairman of the committees for the various war and Liberty Bond drives at Academy. He is a board member and clerk of the Dry Creek school district and in every way does all he can to advance the welfare of his community.

BERTEL LAURITSEN.—A very progressive and successful young man, who began the great struggle for a place in the world as an ordinary farm laborer and today has a valuable improved ranch close to Del Rey, ornamented by a beautiful residence built on symmetrical and artistic lines is Bertel Lauritsen who was born at Fredericia, Denmark, on December 19, 1871, the son of Mogens Lauritsen, a mason and mechanic there, who, on his son's invitation, has come all the way to California, and is now living with him. The mother, whose maiden name was Marie Lauritsen, died twenty-two years ago in Denmark, after having borne twelve children, and brought up nine, six of whom are still living in Denmark, while three are in Fresno County. These latter are Bertel, or "Bert," as he is popularly called; Laura, the wife of Carl Schongaard, the rancher and butcher of Temperance Colony; and Betty, the wife of Clarence Cleary, the head of the seeding department of the Rosenberg Company in Fresno.

Having decided to come to America, Bertel Lauritsen sailed from Bremen on a Hamburg-American liner and landed at New York in June, 1890. Without much delay in the East, he made straight for Clifton, then only a post-office and one store, and now the wide-awake, go-ahead Del Rey, and immediately began work for J. M. Shannon, on what is now the Shannon vineyards. He continued there for five years, and then began to operate for himself. First, he bought land from Mr. Shannon in the Shannon Colony, and improved twenty acres. He also bought and improved twenty acres on the E. F. Davis tract, and this, as well as the other lot, he sold at an advantage. Then he bought forty acres more on section nine, and planted and improved the same, after which he disposed of it at a good price; and next forty acres on section two, which he put into grain and sold.

His present fifty acres he bought from two different owners in 1911. Two acres had been planted at the time when he made the purchase, and fourteen he has since grubbed up and replanted. Now he has two acres in alfalfa, three in white Adriatic figs, thirty-four in Thompson Seedless grapes, ten acres in muscats, and one in flaming Tokays. All in all, it would be

hard to find a trimmer and better cared-for ranch of the size. The ornate bungalow is as beautiful a modest home as anyone could wish for.

In March, 1897, Mr. Lauritsen was married to Miss Annie Hansen, a fair native daughter of Denmark who had previously come to Fresno, and by her he has had one child, Valborg. With their daughter the parents made a trip back to Denmark in 1906, and for eleven months revisited the once familiar and endearing scenes of the fatherland. Attractive, however, as the old country appeared to them again, both were glad to return to their Fresno home. As an American, Mr. Lauritsen delights in all that makes up the land of his adoption, and he keeps Old Glory flying all the time in his front yard. Members of the Danish Lutheran Church, eight miles west of Del Rey, Mr. and Mrs. Lauritsen maintain a live interest in all religious endeavor; and they are always ready to "do their bit" in every movement for the uplift of their community.

RASMUS MADSEN.—Prominent among the large number of Danish-Americans, who have contributed to the permanent development of the resources of the Golden State, must be mentioned Rasmus Madsen, who came to Fresno County in the early nineties. He was born on the Island of Fyen, Wesebjerg, on April 22, 1866, a son of Madsen Mortensen, who was also a native of the same locality and a prosperous farmer there. In early life the father married Miss Anna Catherine Olsen, by whom he had nine children. One of the sons, Karl, is a rancher, and now resides in the Gray Colony, Fresno. Both parents died in Denmark.

The third eldest in the family, Rasmus was reared on his father's farm, while he obtained a limited common-school education. As soon as he was old enough, he began assisting his father, and thus followed farming for the support of the family until 1885. Then he enlisted in the Danish heavy artillery and served as a soldier for the customary two years, receiving the coveted honorable discharge. Then for a couple of years he worked for different persons, saving his earnings, and when he had enough for a ticket to America, he crossed the wide ocean to the country fabled for its opportunities.

His first two years in the United States were spent on farms in Iowa, but the Middle West not being exactly what he was looking for, he left Clay County and came to the Pacific Coast. He had heard about Fresno and its expanding county, and after a few days at the Hotel Collins, then the old Ogle House in the little county seat, he went to work. He showed himself capable of managing a header, a harvester or a thresher; and at all-around farm labor he continued for a couple of years. Then he determined to have a place of his own and eventually leased a fruit ranch which he conducted until he had accumulated enough money to sell his lease and leave Oleander. Then he moved to the Lee place in the Gray Colony, and engaged in grain-raising. He had about 500 acres, which soon yielded bountifully, and which he ranched for three years.

In 1906, Mr. Madsen bought 480 acres of his present place in the Red Bank district, and there he located, making improvements and erecting such buildings as were necessary or desirable. He raised grain, leased more land, and continued his operations on an increasingly larger scale. He bought 689 acres adjoining, and after five years he sold the same at a profit. He leased other lands, and managed finally over 1,500 acres. At one time he had thirty mules or more for his work; now he has a seventy-five horsepower Holt caterpillar for plowing and putting in his crops, and he harvests with a combined harvester. Mr. Madsen also improved a forty-acre vineyard on the Reyburn tract which he cared for two years and then sold at a good profit.

After years of close application in improving his ranch, Mr. Madsen rented the place to his sons in the fall of 1918 and retired to his home in Fresno, located on the corner of Van Ness and Divisadero Streets. Mr.

Madsen was married, at Fresno, to Mrs. Johanna (Christensen) Petersen, a native of Viborg, Denmark, where she married Mads Petersen and where they were well-to-do farmers until they decided to locate in California, when they sold out, in 1891, and came to Fresno, where Mr. Petersen died two months after their arrival, leaving four children who have been reared and educated from the Madsen ranch. They are Christian and Peter, who are operating the Madsen ranch; Annie, now Mrs. Hemmingsen of Rolinda; and Mary, who became Mrs. Harrington and lives in Los Angeles. By Mr. Madsen she has had one daughter, Thora. Mr. Madsen belongs to the Danish Brotherhood, and is a leader in Danish-American affairs. But Mr. Madsen is first, and last and all the time an American, and tries to promote good citizenship according to the principles laid down by the old, historic Democratic party. Under its banners he has done years of yeoman work, refusing more than one complimentary offer to assume public office. He has made a splendid success of his life, and he, his wife and children are highly respected.

BEN JOHNSON.—A fine type of man and citizen—straightforward, upright, kind-hearted and generous—Ben Johnson has made a noteworthy record as a stockman in the foothills and as a teamster and freighter; and in developing one of the show places in the county he contributed his "bit" to the improvement of land values in this section. He was born near Stavanger, Norway, on April 4, 1854, the son of Johann Johnson. His mother was Sigrid Johnson, and she died when the lad was six years of age. Johann, however, lived to attain his eighty-fourth year, the honored father of nine children, of whom Ben was the youngest. Two other sons came to California—Kjeron and Jacob; and both died at Fresno.

Ben attended the public school until he was fourteen, and then continued to assist his father until he was twenty-one years of age. He worked for a while on farms, but more and more gave himself up to lumbering. He did as well as the average young man, but seeing that he could not get ahead, he decided to leave his native land and come to the United States. In 1884, he came to what is now North Dakota; and at Buxton and vicinity he worked for some years on a farm.

In 1889, Mr. Johnson moved west to California, drawn to this region because a brother of his had already settled here. After working four years for his brother in a vineyard, he preempted eighty acres in the foothills, in Auberry Valley, where he began the raising of stock, establishing the brand B. J., which he soon made stand for the highest grades; and when he was able, he bought adjoining land, until finally he had 740 acres in a body. He tried grain farming together with stock and cattle raising, and he also teamed in the mountains, hauling lumber from Pine Ridge to Fresno, Sanger and Selma, and taking freight back. He started with four horses, and finally had a large eight-mule team, operating for nine years. All in all, he was engaged for fifteen years in the stock business and teaming. Then he bought sixty acres in the Helm Colony, in lots two, three and seven, two miles southwest of Clovis, which he at once improved, setting out Malaga and Thompson grapes, and making a fine vineyard. He built a comfortable and handsome residence, arranged avenues of trees, and created one of the most attractive places in all the neighborhood. In May, 1917, he sold the estate at a good profit. Since then he has lived on National Avenue, on the old Milholm place, which he leases, and there he is giving his time and attention to viticulture. As a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc., he always exerts his influence to advance the best interests of the California husbandman.

At Fresno, December 12, 1890, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Katherine Hansen, a native of Stavanger, Norway, who came to Fresno in July, 1890, and of this union there are six children. Sadie has become Mrs. Ernest

Crump of Fresno; Olga is Mrs. H. M. Broody; while Jennie is Mrs. Leroy D. Church. Messrs. Broody and Church are in the United States service, Mr. Broody in the Aviation Section of the United States Navy and Mr. Church in the United States Naval Reserve Forces in which he is an ensign. George Theodore Ben is in the Aviation Section of the United States Army, serving overseas in France. Sigurd and Ruby are at school. The family attend the Lutheran Church.

W. F. BETZOLD, V. S.—It is fitting that the lower order of animal life, among whom man finds loyal and devoted friends, should receive proper medical care and skilful surgical treatment; and in Dr. W. F. Betzold, the expert and successful veterinary surgeon of Sanger, is found a man who has chosen for his life's work the relief from suffering of all domestic animals. W. F. Betzold was born in Newark, N. J., in 1879, a son of Jacob and Catherine C. Betzold. He was one of six children, and the only member of the family to migrate to California. He received his schooling at the Newark public schools, and in his younger days worked at various pursuits until 1896, when he migrated to California and worked at the grocery and butcher business. During the Spanish-American War young Betzold proved his patriotism by enlisting for service in defense of his country and saw service in the Philippines. His bravery and his services were duly recognized, and he was raised from a private to a non-commissioned officer. At the close of the war he received his honorable discharge and eventually came back to California.

Subsequently Mr. Betzold made a trip to China, where he spent one year. Upon his return to the United States he entered the Chicago Veterinary College, and was graduated with his degree of V. S. in 1904. That same year he returned to California and at Fresno began the practice of his profession, finding here a good field for his talents, which were soon recognized by his being made city veterinarian. He resigned from this position to enter upon an independent career at Selma, where he remained until 1912, when he located in Sanger. His field of operations has been widened by this move, and he has rapidly built up a large and successful practice in the country round about. The doctor is a public-spirited citizen and is always found ready to lend his assistance to all worthy projects that have for their aim the building up of the county and the state.

JOHN PETER FUCHS.—A viticulturist whose present prominence and prosperity are the result to a great degree of his far-seeing vision and his industrious, untiring application to daily routine duty, is John Peter Fuchs, who resides eleven miles east of Fresno on National Avenue. He was born in Samara, Russia, on September 1, 1865, the son of Valentine Fuchs, who was a farmer and stock-raiser there. Valentine Fuchs married Marie Frisch, who became the mother of four children. Both parents are now deceased.

Brought up on a farm, Peter attended the public schools of the neighborhood, after which he remained at home to assist his father. In 1884, in the vicinity of his birthplace, he was married to Anna Frisch, a native of that section and the daughter of John Peter and Katherine M. (Schutz) Frisch, farmer folk; and thereafter for a while he followed farming. In 1887 he joined the 160th regiment of Russian infantry and served in the Russian army for four years. As soon as he was honorably discharged, he came to Fresno, in July, 1893. He soon got into the building trade, and for some time was employed by different contractors in the erection of many of the largest buildings in Fresno. He built his own residence on Elm Avenue in the Florence Addition, and the structure may be regarded as a good specimen of Mr. Fuchs' handicraft. Having accumulated some means, and having a desire to engage in ranching, he bought forty acres fifteen miles east of Fresno, in the Fair View district. It was raw land, but he set it out in a



A. J. Johnson



Christina Johnson

vineyard and an orchard, and soon had thirty acres in muscat and Thompson seedless grapes, and alfalfa, and ten acres in peaches. He built a residence and otherwise improved the property.

About 1910 Mr. Fuchs quit working in town in order to devote all his time to farming, and five years later he bought the August Kruse place of fifty acres and moved onto it. In 1915 he sold the original forty acres, and gave all his time and attention to his home place. He set out twenty acres to new vines, and now has sixteen acres of muscats, seven acres of Thompson seedless, two acres of Malagas, two acres of Emperors, and twelve acres of Zinfandels, while the rest is devoted to alfalfa. He is a very active member in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company, and leaves no stone unturned to advance agricultural interests in California.

Four children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Fuchs. Anna is Mrs. Bush of Fresno; Gotlieb is a rancher near home; and Peter and Alexander H. are at home. Mr. and Mrs. Fuchs and family attend the German Lutheran Church at Fresno, in which Mr. Fuchs has served as trustee. This estimable couple are loyal and public-spirited citizens, and contribute to help along war relief and other worthy endeavors.

MRS. CHRISTINA JOHNSON.—A most excellent woman, with two equally estimable daughters, and one who is the center of special interest as the worthy representative of the late Anton John Johnson, her husband, and who suffered many privations in Fresno's early pioneer days, is Mrs. Christina Johnson, herself the well-known rancher of the Riverside Colony, five miles east of Reedley. When Mr. Johnson came to the Riverside Colony, four miles south of Parlier, thirty years ago, he was the owner of fifty acres there; for he had been here before, and had come to know the value and the prospects of the growing country. He was born in Oeland, Sweden, on February 17, 1852, the son of Johan Jacobson, also a native of Oeland, who was both a fisherman and farmer; and there Anton grew up, went to school, and attended the Swedish Lutheran Church. At fifteen he took to the sea, and for several years he cruised as a sailor before the mast. Reaching San Francisco on such a sailing voyage, he stopped off and, for a couple of years worked on the oyster beds; and little by little he acquired both English and a knowledge of the interior of the country.

He had a brother named William, who was a farmer at Fresno, and to him Anton repaired and began to work at farming also. He had previously, however, returned to Sweden for a visit and there renewed acquaintance with the lady who was to become his life helpmate, namely, Christina Sabelstrom, who was also born at Oeland, and so had the same background of experience. They had really been schoolmates together, and during this visit became engaged. Mr. Johnson returned to his farm at Traver in the fall of 1877, and ten years later Miss Sabelstrom, in company with her brother, Otto, sailed from Stockholm for America. She traveled via Calmar and Hamburg to New York, and on June 24, 1888, she arrived at Fresno, and in the fall of that year was married.

Mr. and Mrs. Johnson at once took up their residence on the farm at Traver, and there they stayed two years. The land proved to be alkali, however, and Mr. Johnson was glad to sell the entire place of twenty acres for fifty dollars. This would have discouraged many men, but Anton Johnson began all over again, and on Christmas Day, 1889, he came here and bought twenty acres of grain land; and having improved the same, he planted it. Later, he bought ten acres more, and still later, another twenty acres of bare land, which he planted and improved in various ways. All in all, this property made a fine estate; and when he died, January 17, 1914, aged sixty-two years eleven months, the father of two children, he bequeathed the property to his widow. The children are: Anna, who is the wife of Clarence

McCreary, who trained at Camp Lewis in the infantry service, spent seven months in France, went "over the top" several times, returned to the United States and was discharged in May, 1919; and Freda, a graduate from the Ross Grammar School and also from Heald's Business College at Fresno. Since Mr. Johnson's lamented death, Mrs. Johnson has sold off twenty acres, and is renting out the other thirty. She is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and the Peach Growers, Inc.

Mrs. Johnson and family are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Kingsburg, and are deeply interested in religious and social welfare work, and in anything likely to advance their neighborhood. They are also interested in Red Cross and other war work. The United States is their home, Americans are their fellow citizens, and they know of but one kind of loyalty, that to the President and the Constitution.

W. T. STONE.—W. T. Stone, the experienced superintendent of the Harper ranch of eighty acres, owned by S. D. Harper of Fresno and situated one mile west of Del Rey, was born at Wellsville, Montgomery County, Mo., on October 30, 1876. He is the son of Z. J. Stone, a well-to-do farmer, and Mary (McCough) Stone, who died when our subject was only two years old, leaving besides him two other children, an older and a younger sister; but he is the only one now living. His father married again, and there are six half-brothers and half-sisters.

W. T. Stone was brought up on his father's farm in Missouri, and attended the district schools. At the age of twenty-two he was married to Miss Josie Menz, also a native of Missouri. He had decided on coming to California, but after his marriage he remained in Missouri long enough to raise two good crops on his father-in-law's farm before he said adieu to his native state and journeyed westward. Arriving in Sanger, Fresno County, on March 1, 1901, with his young wife and baby girl, he went to work in the Sanger Lumber Company's planing mill, and for nine years he continued in the employ of that company. In 1910 he left the mill and entered the service of M. D. Harper, with whom he continued for three years. For the past five years, he has had charge of the S. D. Harper place, and has been responsible for the direction of from one to thirty men in their work. The eighty acres are devoted to muscat and Thompson Seedless grapes, as well as to about twelve acres of peaches. The land is in a high state of cultivation and under the liberal policy and enterprise of its owner, who resides in Fresno, and the expert management of Mr. Stone, the Harper ranch has become a source of pride and civic satisfaction to the community, whose prosperity it in part represents.

Three children have blessed the lives of Mr. and Mrs. Stone, and added to the charm of their home-circle: Mary Nellie, who is a graduate of the high school at Sanger and now attends the Fresno Normal; and William Joseph and Dora May, who are still at home. Mr. Stone belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. Stone is a member of the Royal Neighbors, and of the Methodist Church at Del Rey.

HANS WILLIAM SORENSEN.—Prominent among medical men of Central California is Hans William Sorensen, D.D.S., whose offices are located in the Rowell Building, Fresno. Dr. Sorensen was born on December 19, 1892, on a ranch in the Washington Colony, eight miles west of Fowler. For nine years he attended the Washington Colony grammar school, and then for four years was a student in the Washington Union High School, thus laying well the foundation of a liberal education and equipping himself in the best possible fashion for later professional success. For some time he was in the employ of Stephens & Bean, of Fresno, and then he went to Nashville, Tenn., and matriculated at the Vanderbilt University, Dental Department. His studies there were followed by a year in the splendidly

equipped dental department of the University of Southern California, from which he was graduated with honors in 1915.

Having both by undergraduate and postgraduate work left no stone unturned to thoroughly master the science and technique of his chosen profession, Dr. Sorensen began the practice of dentistry in July, 1915, in the Rowell Building, Fresno, where he has since attained to such success, and since then his expert services have been in great demand. After the entry of the United States into the World War, Dr. Sorensen enlisted on June 3, 1917, was commissioned first lieutenant of the Dental Reserve of the United States Army, and was called into active service at Camp Fremont, where he was stationed until he received his honorable discharge, on December 10, 1918. He then did postgraduate work at the Carr School of Preventative Medicine and Dentistry, from which he was graduated on February 14, 1919, when he returned to Fresno and fitted up a new office in the Rowell Building. Dr. Sorensen is the secretary of the San Joaquin Valley Dental Association, which numbers on its rolls the most distinguished representatives of the dental profession in this part of the country. He is a member of the University Club and of Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. Elks. He was made a Mason in Center Lodge, No. 465, F. & A. M., and is a member of San Jose Consistory, No. 9, Scottish Rite Mason, and of Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., San Francisco.

ARTHUR G. WAHLBERG.—Music, in our homes, schools, churches, and civic centers, is a stimulus to our national life, and choral singing produces both physical and moral development. With this high ideal, Prof. Arthur G. Wahlberg, the distinguished and capable director of music in the Fresno State Normal School, has done much to advance musical appreciation and to cultivate a taste for the best in music. He was born in Boston, Mass., June 6, 1874, and received his education in the excellent public schools of that city. As a young man, he entered the employment of the Perry Mason Company, publishers of the Youth's Companion.

Mr. Wahlberg came from a musical family, and his musical temperament was greatly aided by a favorable environment, with instruction under some of the best teachers in the East. An early and rapid physical development gave him a fine bass voice at thirteen years of age. At fifteen, he was bass soloist in a church choir of which he became the director when but seventeen years of age. Later, he became soloist and choirmaster of St. James Episcopal Church in Boston for eight years; after which he became soloist at St. Stephens Episcopal Church of Boston. In addition to his musical interests as singer, teacher and director, he took an active interest in the political and fraternal affairs of his native city.

In 1903, Mr. Wahlberg came to California for a year of rest, which resulted in this becoming the state of his adoption, by his connection with the First National Bank of Fresno. Later he became associated with the Bank of Central California of the same city.

Upon coming to Fresno, Professor Wahlberg's musical talent was recognized and eagerly sought. He organized and trained a male quartet for the Unitarian Church, which was financed by the late Dr. Chester Rowell and Louis Einstein. In 1904, he became the musical director of the First Presbyterian Church of Fresno, which position he still retains. In 1906, he was elected Supervisor of Music of the Fresno City Schools, whereupon he prepared a course of study for the grades, introduced assembly singing in the high school; organized Girls' and Boys' Glee Clubs, introduced courses in sight reading, harmony, and history of music, and succeeded in having music placed on a credit basis in the high school.

In 1911, Professor Wahlberg became the Director of Music in the Fresno State Normal School and has recently organized a special four years' course to train music supervisors. In 1912, he organized the Fresno Male Chorus

of fifty voices, and has been its conductor ever since. He has been identified with Raisin Day celebrations as chairman of the music committee, furnishing choruses numbering fifteen hundred or more. He has had charge also of the musical activities of several of the Masonic bodies of Fresno city, and for years he was active in promoting the musical interests of the Young Men's Christian Association. In addition to his musical work at the Normal School, he is chairman of the finance committee of the Faculty and Student Body; and being an expert swimmer, is also the instructor of swimming.

Mr. Wahlberg was united in marriage in New York City, in 1897, with Gertrude Blanche Graham, a native of Boston, Mass., a lyric choir soprano. Four children have been born of the union: Laura, the well known soprano singer of Fresno; Harold, who served in the United States Aviation Corps in France; Ruth, a student in the Fresno High School, and Arthur G., Jr.

A man of practical ideas, active mentality and sympathetic, artistic temperament, and endowed with much native ability and a winning personality, Professor Wahlberg realizes that it is his mission and privilege to use his talents for the inspiration of others.

ROBERT B. DONNELL.—Among the pioneers of Fresno County who, through hard work and self-denial, have become, in the course of years men and women of substantial affairs, may be mentioned Robert B. Donnell, who has resided for fourteen years on his present ranch of eighty acres near the promising and favored town of Reedley. He was born in Tennessee in 1865, the son of Samuel C. Donnell, who married Sarah F. McAdoo, and with her reared a family of four children. Robert was the youngest, and while living at home, he enjoyed the educational advantages of his neighborhood. Growing up, he turned his attention to agriculture, and while things were not done in those days in the improved manner of today, he served his apprenticeship under those who did as well as the times demanded.

In 1904, Mr. Donnell came to Kings County, Cal., where he remained four months. Then, having been persuaded that Fresno County offered superior inducements, he moved here and took up residence on his present ranch. He obtained eighty acres and made many improvements, changing the farm from a stubble field to its present state. He has twenty acres of figs, over fifty of grapes and seven of alfalfa. His grapes, mostly muscatels, yield him about two tons per acre. Mr. Donnell uses modern methods and implements, and secures the best results.

Mrs. Donnell was Miss Elizabeth Osborne before her marriage, in October, 1893, and she was the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Bush) Osborne, also natives of Tennessee. They had ten children, and three are in Fresno County. This marriage has been blessed by three children, two living, Mary Pepper and Sarah Frances, and the Donnell household is known for its old-fashioned California hospitality and cheer. Mr. Donnell is a member of the fig, peach and raisin associations, and a stockholder in the peach and raisin associations.

PUGH BROS.—The firm of Pugh Bros. consists of Edward M. and James V. Pugh, sons of John M. Pugh who is elsewhere represented in this work. Edward was born near North Butte, Sutter County, in 1872 and James, at Stonyford, Colusa County in 1881. Edward was educated in the public school at Stonyford and then in the Central district Fresno County, while James received his schooling at the latter place and at the Selma high school, from which he was graduated.

Since attaining manhood they have always worked together, renting and operating vineyards, while making their headquarters on their father's ranch. For a while they operated in the Kutner Colony section, and after their father's death they ran the home farm, as well as other ranch-properties.



T. D. Billew



Margaret L. Biller.

In 1915, the two brothers bought 320 acres between Ventura and Belmont Avenues, and 160 acres of this they subdivided, giving the name of Gladiola Colony to the division, and retaining the other 160 acres. Gladiola Ranch lies twelve miles east of Fresno.

Two years later, in 1917, they sold the old home place, and now they are devoting their attention to improving the Gladiola vineyards. They have erected there a residence and other necessary buildings, and have planted muscat, Thompson, sultana and Malaga grapes.

Pugh Bros. also lease, buy and sell vineyards. Since 1912 James V. Pugh has been in charge of the Clotho Warehouse for the Pioneer Fruit Company, as well as that company's establishment at Blasingame, while E. M. Pugh has been looking after the Gladiola Vineyard. Both are members of the California Associated Raisin Company, and have been from its organization, and they are also members of the California Peach Growers' Inc. Their ranch is under the Hansen ditch, and in addition to this dependable supply of water, they have a pumping plant of their own.

Edward and James Pugh were made Masons in Selma Lodge, No. 277, F. & A. M., and there they still have their memberships. In matters of national politics they are Democrats.

THEODORE DONALD BILLER.—To be able to superintend the business of two successful oil companies requires ability of an unusually high degree and especial adaptability for such a responsible position, but the subject of this review, Theodore Donald Biller, who is familiarly known as "Ted" Biller, has proved himself equal to the task. Mr. Biller has been the efficient superintendent of both the Ward and the Seneca Oil Companies since February, 1913.

Ted Biller is a native of the Old Dominion State, born near Forestville, Shenandoah County, Va., March 4, 1875, a son of Simon and Emma (Bowers) Biller, both of whom are natives of Virginia. The father was born at Moores Store, and followed farming at Forestville, where he was married and where he and his wife and family still reside. Of their family of seven children, Theodore is the oldest and he was reared on the farm until he was sixteen years old when he began to make his own way in the world, working on farms and at saw mills, also operating a stationary engine used in running a threshing machine.

In the spring of 1896, Mr. Biller took a trip to Illinois, where he secured work on a farm at Petersburg, Menard County, remaining there five and a half years after which he returned East and was employed by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad as brakeman out of Connellsville, then on the Morgantown and Kingswood Railroad as fireman. Later he returned to Illinois where he went with the Chicago, Peoria & St. Louis Railroad as a brakeman, which he followed for a while, when he again resumed work on a farm. In October, 1906, Mr. Biller took a trip to the Golden State and after his advent in California he was employed for eight months on a ranch at Hanford, after which he came to the Coalinga oil field on August 7, 1907. At first he was employed by the Traders Oil Company, then by the Ward and the Seneca Oil Companies as a pumper. In 1908, he entered the employ of Pierson & Son and was sent by them to Coatzacoalcas Point, Mex., where he worked as a tool-dresser for eight months, when he returned to Coalinga and again resumed his place with the Ward and the Seneca Oil Companies. At first he filled the position of pumper, later he became foreman and so ably did he discharge his duties, that in February, 1913, he was promoted to the responsible position of superintendent of both oil companies and has retained his post ever since.

Mr. Biller is also a stockholder in the Seneca Oil Company. The Ward and the Seneca Oil Companies together own 160 acres on which they are operating about sixteen oil-wells. Since taking full charge of affairs Mr. Biller has equipped the wells with twenty-five horsepower gas-engines, utiliz-

ing the natural gas from the wells for fuel to produce the power and light to operate the business. Ted Biller is regarded as one of the most enterprising and progressive superintendents in the field and employs the most up-to-date methods in operating the wells. He is a genial, kind-hearted man who possesses the happy faculty of making and retaining many friends.

On December 27, 1911, in Spokane, Wash., Mr. Biller was united in marriage with Margaret G. Swisher, a native of Virginia, born near Staunton, Augusta County, the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Showalter) Swisher, natives of Virginia, and who were farmers. William Swisher served in the Confederate Army in the Civil War for four years; he and his estimable wife are now both deceased. Mrs. Biller is next to the youngest of their twelve children and is the only one in California.

Mr. Biller was a member of the Coalinga District War Fund Association and took an active part in making a success of the various drives for war funds and Liberty bonds, and with his wife is an active member of the Red Cross. Mr. and Mrs. Biller are members of the Presbyterian Church, while fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Coalinga, and the Knights of Khorassan of Fresno. Mrs. Biller is a member of the Pythian Sisters of Coalinga and of the West Side Welcome Club.

JACOB ULRICH JOHNSON.—Jacob Ulrich Johnson was born in the southern part of Sweden, on May 7, 1860, and was brought up on a farm and attended school until he was sixteen years of age. He came to this country at the age of twenty years, made his way to Henry County, Mo., in the spring of 1881, and then, attracted by the alluring prospect Fresno County held forth for energetic young men of thrifty habits, located here in 1882, working on a farm for the succeeding six years. In 1888 he bought a home place of forty acres in Scandinavian Colony, upon which he set out and began raising Malaga grapes. This place he owned until 1918, when he sold it.

In June, 1902, Mr. Johnson was married in Fresno to Rosa Thonen, a native of the state of Washington, who came to California with her parents. Two children were born of this union, Teddy and Sam.

In 1910 Mr. Johnson became associated with the Olson Winery in the capacity of director, having previously been a stockholder in that institution. In 1913 he was elected its president. The old Olson Winery was founded in 1878 and was one among the first wineries in the county, operating an eighty-acre vineyard. Starting with a few barrels for the manufacturers' own use, it grew to such proportions that in 1896 they built their present place of business, where in late years about 100,000 gallons of wine have been produced annually. In January, 1919, having bought out the balance of the stockholders and having thus become sole owner, Mr. Johnson disincorporated the company.

In politics Mr. Johnson is independent, voting for the best man. His success in his business ventures demonstrates what can be accomplished by energy, thrift and attention to business.

JOHN WEBSTER.—A natural-born mechanic who is at the same time a successful viticulturist and a lover of music, is John Webster, who came to California in the early nineties. He was born at Staveley, Derbyshire, England, in 1861, the son of James Webster, also a native of that section, who was a merchant and who died there, where he had made a good name for himself in the mercantile world. Mrs. Webster was Sarah Dewsnap before her marriage; and she also died there. Eleven children were born of this union, and ten are now living.

The second oldest in the family, and its only representative in the United States, John Webster, removed with his parents to Rotherham, Yorkshire, while only a child, and was there reared, receiving his education at the public schools. He assisted his father in his store, and also learned to be a cloth-finisher and a machinist.

At Gomersal in Yorkshire, Mr. Webster was married in September, 1890, to Miss Elizabeth Sutherland, a native of Caithness, Scotland, daughter of John and Jane (Clark) Sutherland, who passed their entire lives there. After setting up his own household, Mr. Webster worked as a cloth-finisher and mechanic, remaining in his native land until he concluded to come to California. In 1901 he arrived in the Golden State and soon was settled in Clovis, Fresno County. He entered the employ of the Fresno Flume and Lumber Company, and later went into the service of the Copper King Mining Company as a machinist and engineer. Then he worked for the Fresno Copper Mine and helped put in and start the plant.

Four years after his arrival here, Mr. Webster gave up the line of activity he had been pursuing and came to Fresno to engage in viticulture. He leased Miss Sutherland's vineyard of forty acres in the Scandinavian Colony, experimented with the different phases of the work, learned all about grafting and propagating, and finally had thirty-five acres in vines and the balance in alfalfa. He put in a pumping plant, his own boy, John Webster, Jr., having made the engine, which was of nine horse-power. Through his participation in the viticultural industries of Central California, Mr. Webster became a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Webster. The son, John Webster, Jr., mentioned above, is a graduate of the Fresno High School and has concluded two years of his college course. He is now in the United States Army, Company D, Three Hundred Sixteenth Engineers, Ninety-first Division, serving over seas, where he participated in the Argonne campaign and later saw service in Belgium. The daughter, Maude, is a graduate of Heald's Business College, and a bookkeeper for the Kings County Packing Company. The family attend the Catholic Apostolic Church of San Francisco, of which they are members, when in that city.

ORIE ODELL OLIVER.—One of the prosperous and enterprising horticulturists and viticulturists of Centerville, Fresno County, is O. O. Oliver, whose ability as an expert has been recognized by the State of California by his appointment to the important post of Deputy Horticultural Inspector, under Mr. Rouillard. Mr. Oliver is a native of the Buckeye State, having been born there on July 12, 1866, a son of William G. and Sarah Jane (Rada-baugh) Oliver, who were also natives of Ohio but became residents of California in 1893, where the father died. Mrs. Sarah J. Oliver is still living. Of the two children that came to bless the Oliver home, O. O. is the sole survivor.

He was reared and educated in his native state, and while other opportunities were afforded Mr. Oliver, as a means of livelihood, the vocation of a farmer appealed to him most. From Ohio he removed to Kansas where he remained for a time and in 1892, feeling the irresistible call of the Golden West, he migrated to California and soon after his arrival secured employment with the General Electric Company, with which he remained until 1897, when he located at Centerville. There were but few settlers in the place at that time and the business section of the village consisted of a store and postoffice kept by Muller Brothers, and a blacksmith shop. Mr. Oliver bought seventeen acres of unclaimed land which he set out to grapes and oranges, and ever since he has been very successful and has proven the wisdom of his selection of land for the development of his chosen enterprise. He has since demonstrated his faith in this locality by purchasing 110 acres more, which surrounds his original seventeen acres, the ranch being located in the very center of Centerville; the additional acreage is also devoted to grapes and oranges. Land in this vicinity for which he paid fifty dollars per acre has greatly enhanced in value, selling in 1919 for \$1,000 per acre. While Mr. Oliver still retains his residence at Centerville he conducts his business operations at Sanger, where he manages the Lucius Powers Fruit

Company. He handles all kinds of green fruit and has shipped as high as 200 cars of grapes and forty-six cars of oranges in one season. The packing-house is 50x80 feet in size with a twenty-foot shed on either side and is conveniently located for shipping by the Southern Pacific Railroad.

In 1891, O. O. Oliver was united in marriage with Miss Eve Dimmick and this union has been blessed with six children: William D.; Harvey W.; Leo. E.; Firman L.; Orion R.; and Evelyn J. They have had the advantages of the good schools of Fresno County and, with their parents, have the good will and esteem of the section in which they live. Mrs. Oliver is a lady of many accomplishments and is a true helpmate to her husband and with him is interested in all that promotes the social and moral uplift.

Fraternally, Mr. Oliver is a member of Orangedale Lodge, No. 211, I. O. O. F., at Centerville, and has held the office of Noble Grand at four different times, and served as secretary for eight consecutive years. Mr. and Mrs. Oliver are members of the Red Cross and he has served on the grand jury for one year. Mr. Oliver is a man of splendid business acumen and has demonstrated his ability by the accomplishment of his aims since coming to Fresno County. He is now the only one of the settlers of his day still remaining at Centerville.

DAVID FETT.—This gentleman, whose post office is Parlier, is one of the early and highly-respected citizens of that town, where he has made his residence since 1902. He has been a resident of the State since 1884, in which year he came to Fresno County. While he spent some time in Tulare and in Kern Counties, the major part of his California experience has been in Fresno, and for this county he has a devotion and fidelity that would do credit to any native son.

His first property was purchased in Selma, where he dwelt from 1895 up to 1902, when he moved to Parlier. Here he purchased his present ranch consisting of 160 acres, all in its virgin state. In fact, there was no such place as Parlier, or Reedley, or Sanger. After some years, he sold forty acres, thinking that 120 would be quite sufficient for him; but some time after this, in 1907, he met with an accident on the Santa Fe Railroad through which he lost one of his feet. This so discouraged him that he sold forty acres more. About this time Mr. Fett was contemplating a business trip to Africa, but this, too, was given up on account of his physical disability.

He now operates eighty acres, all in a high state of cultivation, devoted to vineyard purposes. His soil is very productive, his farm buildings are capacious and comfortable, and his dwelling house, a model of modern conveniences, is almost palatial, built as it is on the highest order of California architecture.

Mr. Fett was born in Ohio in 1854, and was reared on his father's farm, while attending the common schools of his native state. He lived with his father until 1876, when he reached his twenty-second year. Then he left home and migrated to Colorado, where he engaged in mining and teaming until 1881. In that year he turned his face toward the setting sun, and before long found himself in the Golden State.

Among all the twelve children that blessed the union of his parents, Mr. Fett is the only one who came to California. This move meant much to him, however, in all its bearings, and much to others as well. In 1893 he wooed and won Miss Eliza Catherine Parlier, the daughter of I. N. Parlier; and they had three children: Mabel, now Mrs. Bigger; Roy and Raymond. Roy died when two and a half years old. Mrs. Fett is a native of Illinois, from which state her parents removed in very early days, locating at the site of Parlier, where her mother now resides.



David Pett



Mrs. Eliza B. Pett.

This association with the Parlier family is one of which both Mr. and Mrs. Fett may well be proud; for Mr. I. N. Parlier, the pioneer after whom the town was properly named, was a well-known Californian in his time, and his name and accomplishments, which are duly recorded in the Parlier section of this history, will be told with appreciation and pleasure for generations to come.

DAVID A. SPENCE.—The importance of vineyarding, and the high-water mark to which that agricultural science may attain, is demonstrated in the career and accomplishments of D. A. Spence, the well-known vineyardist who long ago entered upon productive paths for himself. A native of Dollar, Clackmannanshire, Scotland, his father was Alexander D. Spence, a school-teacher who came to the United States in 1886 and located here. Doubtless the fact that he had purchased a place four years before in the Scandinavian Colony at Fresno had much to do with his coming, and once here, he wished to see his land yielding as well as that of others about him. He got a vineyard well under way, and then brought out his family; and he continued a pioneer vineyardist until his death in 1892. Alexander's wife was, before her marriage, Christiana Young; she survived her husband about sixteen years.

Born on July 25, 1875, under the gray but alluring skies of beautiful Scotland, David A. Spence grew up with his brothers and a sister, and enjoyed the best educational advantages in his native and his adopted countries that came his way. He helped his father on the home place, and after the death of the latter took charge of, and finally sold out, the old homestead. With his brothers, William Y. and John Y., he purchased eighty acres northwest of Clovis, which they set to vineyard, the first in that section, which has become splendid for grape-growing. This ranch was improved from a stubble-field. They incorporated as the Spence Vineyard Company, Mr. Spence being assisted in its management by his brother, John Y. Since 1913, he has been employed in the contract department of the California Associated Raisin Company.

A Republican, but too public-spirited to be partisan when it comes to local issues, Mr. Spence is a veteran of the Spanish American War, having been a member of Company C of the Sixth California Volunteers. After being mustered out, he returned to civil pursuits. Fraternally he is a member of the Elks, Red Men and St. Andrews Society. The latter expresses, also, his Protestant principles and preferences.

MATT. COPPIN.—A rancher who, by close, scientific study of the many and perplexing problems of the vineyard, has become a noted viticulturist, and who has succeeded in developing one of the most attractive and productive vine ranches to be found anywhere, is Matt. Coppin, who came to Fresno in the late eighties, when the great California boom was in full swing. He was born near Eugene, Ore., on the last day of December, 1868, the son of Charles Coppin, a native of England, who early came to the United States and made for the inviting Northwest. By the aid of ox teams he crossed the plains to Oregon, which he reached after adventures with the Indians and Mormons, and there he engaged in farming. There, too, he was married to Miss Hettie D. Shell, a native of Iowa, who crossed the plains to Oregon with her parents. In 1874 Charles Coppin moved to Chico, and there his good wife died. For years he engaged in the raising of sheep and grain, but in 1886 he came to Fresno and embarked in the vineyard business. He was living in Long Beach in well-earned retirement where he died in September, 1918, aged eighty-six years. He was the father of seven children, six of whom are still living.

The eldest of the family, Matthew Coppin was brought up in California from his sixth year, and attended private schools, topping off his education at the Woodman Academy in Chico. For a while he assisted his father in

teaming and farming, and then he hauled lumber for the Sierra Flume and Lumber Company. When only twelve years of age he drove a team of eight mules or horses into the mountains. Later he went into general ranching and grain farming. In 1889 he came to Fresno, to help in the vineyards, and soon after that he started in for himself. From Jerry D. Musick he rented a vineyard in the Wolters Colony and ran it for five years; but the low price of raisins—only one and a half cents for muscats—made the venture unprofitable, and he rented another vineyard of forty acres in the same colony, which he also managed for five years. In 1901 he bought his present place of ten acres on National Avenue, two miles from the city limits, and this he has set out to Sultanas and Thompson Seedless raisins. As the property of one of the first settlers here, this vineyard is a source of pride to its owner. Mr. Coppin is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and has been active in all the previous raisin societies that have sought to advance the interests of the ranchmen hereabouts.

On October 30, 1892, in the Scandinavian Colony, Mr. Coppin was married to Miss Emma Anderson, a native daughter of San Francisco, whose father was Fred Anderson, the well-known pioneer. They have one child, Ruth, who is a general favorite and their home is a center of hospitality. They have been active in local movements designed to uplift the community, and Mr. Coppin has served as a trustee of the Wolters school district and clerk of the school board.

WILLIAM JOSEPH LOHMAN.—The assured success of any institution is the laying of a substantial foundation upon which to build a superstructure designed to stand the test of men and time. The principles by which it is to be governed must be clearly defined, and of a high character. The mind that governs, controls, directs must be clear and far-seeing and forceful, to convince and sway other minds. When such are the conditions attending the establishing of an institution, all signs point to deserved success. Parlier, the center of one of the most productive regions of all California, has in its First National Bank such an institution, controlled by just such principles, and with a master mind, in the intellect and character of W. J. Lohman, the cashier and director, to put in operation and enforce the standards once set up; and in the daily life of this accomplished gentleman, the citizens have an ample guarantee as to the prosperity of this bulwark of the town.

The bank was organized in 1911 by Mr. Lowman and I. N. Parlier, founder of the town, and on February 4, 1912, opened its doors to the public for business. It then had a capital of \$25,000, and under the careful management of Mr. Lohman now has a surplus fund of \$35,000. J. F. Hayhorst was the president, and J. C. McCord was the cashier.

In January, 1913, Mr. McCord was succeeded by Mr. Lohman, and in 1918 Mr. Hayhorst gave way to C. A. Parlier, as president. Under each succeeding administration the bank has gained more and more favor with the public, until now, in busy seasons, it often does a business of \$100,000 in a day. It acts in part for eastern buyers. The new home of the bank is under construction and will be one of the most modern bank buildings in the entire Valley. It will be equipped with every safety device for the protection of the funds intrusted to its care, with up-to-date furnishings and accommodations for its patrons, and will cost over \$40,000. The bank will occupy its new home about September 1, 1919.

W. J. Lohman was born in Nevada County, Cal., May 2, 1869, and is one of two children, Peter H. being two years older and now city marshal of Selma. The father was Peter Lohman, born in Hamburg, Germany, January 16, 1826, who came to the United States and to California, where at Forest City, Sierra County, he married Hanorah (McBride) Feeley. She was born in Dublin, Ireland, December 25, 1828, and died in Nevada County, in

1901. By her first marriage she had four children, three now living: Nora Muller, of Selma; Mrs. Nellie Goodspeed of Palo Alto; and J. C. Feeley, of Parlier. The latter is the father of Capt. J. C. Feeley, Jr., who was with the First Gas Regiment in France during the World War, where he spent six months. He is a graduate of the University of California, engineering department, and won his rank by meritorious service. He received his discharge in May, 1919, and has entered the employ of a big mining company in Mexico. Peter Lohman, the father, was a sailor and came to the United States in 1850, and after some wandering, arrived at San Francisco. He tarried only a couple of years in the busy city, and then went to the mines at Downieville in Sierra County. In his search for gold, he was very successful. He helped organize the Bald Mountain Extension Mining Company, was a chief investor in the You Bet at Nevada City but, like so many others, reinvested what he had won and lost a good deal of his fortune. He swore hearty allegiance to the United States in 1865, and was made a full-fledged citizen. He was for years fortunate in his chosen pursuit, and promoted enterprises of great service to the miners. For years he operated a pack train from Marysville to Downieville, and he had in his employ Creed Hammond, who subsequently became attorney general for the Southern Pacific Railroad. He retired from mining in 1882, and in 1903 he came to Fresno County and located with his son near Parlier, helping him to manage the twenty acres he then had there; and in 1917, aged eighty-eight years, he died, full of years and honors, and widely respected and beloved. He was a prominent member of the Masonic fraternity, and belonged to the Royal Arch Chapter since 1856. He was buried beside his wife, in Nevada City, the Masons conducting his funeral.

W. J. Lohman who, like his brother, was educated in the California public schools, took a course first in the San Jose Normal School, and then in Heald's Business College at San Francisco, from which he was graduated with honors in the Class of 1890. At San Jose he was a classmate with Senator J. B. Sanford, of Ukiah, later and now Collector of the Post at San Francisco; Thomas B. W. Leland, Coroner, of San Francisco; and George Cosgrave, the attorney of Fresno. Then he went to work with the Birdseye Quick Mining Company at You Bet, staying with them for ten years, and after that farmed and loaned money to others to help them to farm. Following, as it were, in the footprints of his father, he was also successful; and when John Muller of Selma invited him to come down and see the country, he was not long in concluding that he liked Fresno County very much, and Parlier in particular.

In 1915, Mr. Lohman organized the Riverbend Gas Company, of which he became secretary and one-quarter owner and which includes the following gentlemen in its management: W. J. Lohman, R. K. Madsen, W. W. Parlier and Harry G. Williams. There is invested in this business \$230,000 and the company furnishes gas—of an excellent quality, superior to that often found in large cities—to Dinuba, Reedley, Parlier and Kingsburg.

W. J. Lohman is also trustee of the Ross School district, an office of peculiar honor that he has held since 1909. He is an efficient member of the Chamber of Commerce of Parlier having served as its president two years, and is an advance guard in its progressive policies.

Mr. Lohman has both made and saved quite a fortune, notwithstanding his known generosity, owning three dwellings, office lots, two ranches, and a quarter interest in Riverbend Gas and Water Company, bank stock, first mortgages, United States Bonds and War Savings and Thrift Stamps, amounting all told to the sum of \$75,000, all made in fifteen years. He is one of the livest men in Parlier, and what he undertakes or supports is generally successful. He is efficient and untiring in his application to duty, however irksome. He has the respect and good will of the community. He served

as chairman of the Liberty Bond Committee and Parlier went over the top in every instance, winning all honors, and, in the Victory Loan, Parlier was one of the three towns in the entire valley which won a German helmet.

In 1904, Mr. Lohman was united in marriage to Miss Adelaide Matthiesen, the daughter of Peter Matthiesen, by whom he has had five children: Raymond Peter, Neal Joseph, Doris Hanorah, Eldred John and Virginia Adelaide, and they constitute an interesting and attractive family.

MATHIAS THOMSEN.—One of the leading and most experienced ranchers and raisin-growers in the Parlier section is Mathias Thomsen, brother-in-law of N. J. Hansen, a viticulturist of scientific methods, who has become well-to-do and who with his family is everywhere highly respected. He owns twenty acres on the Kingsburg and Centerville Road, five miles north of Kingsburg, where he has resided for about thirty years, and these are devoted to peaches and raisin grapes. He is an active member of the Raisin and the Peach Growers' associations, is a stockholder in the bank at Parlier, and an ex-trustee of the Ross School district. In national politics he is a steadfast Republican, and a Republican of the kind who, in the present war crisis, loyally supports the Administration; while in matters of local administration and improvement Mr. Thomsen always favors the best man and advocates the best measures.

He was born in North Schleswig (since 1864 a part of Germany) on August 21, 1867, and grew up in Schleswig where he learned the Danish language despite the German imposition of their own tongue. His father was Soren Thomsen, who was born, married and died in North Schleswig, where he owned a small dairy farm. The mother, Annie Christine Petersen, was likewise born in Schleswig. The parents had eight children: Bodil Maria; Meta Maria; Martha; Mathias; Peter; Nielsine; and Niels, and Ingemann.

When only eleven years of age Mathias went out to work for different farmers, and for one farmer alone he labored for four years, and another for five. Meanwhile he was brought up at the public schools and in the circles of the Lutheran Church, where he was confirmed at the age of fourteen. His schooling was really very limited, and confined mostly to a few weeks in the winter time, on which account his later successes would seem to redound all the more to his credit.

When he was twenty years of age he crossed the Atlantic and pushed inland as far west as Minneapolis, where his older and married sister then lived. He had sailed from Hamburg on the steamship *Suavia*, of the Hamburg-American line, in March, 1888, and landed at old Castle Garden in New York City, April 12, after a voyage of three weeks. An accident alone marred the journey. The *Suavia* ran down a small steamer with thirteen men aboard, and both the captain and the cook lost their lives.

Once somewhat settled here, Mr. Thomsen started to work in a dairy at Minneapolis, undertaking to milk cows, and there he stayed for nearly a year. Then he came on to California attracted by the fact that his sister Martha, the wife of N. J. Hansen, already referred to, was living with her husband in the Central Colony, four miles south of Fresno. He arrived at Fresno on October 11, 1889, and at once engaged in some work for his brother-in-law, N. J. Hansen, with whom he continued until the fourth of July of the following year. Then he went out to the Fresno Colony, two miles distant from Fresno, and there hired himself out as a milker on a dairy farm, then owned by William Sherman. At the end of a month and a half, however, he obtained other farm work which kept him busy until December, 1890. Then he came here and bought his present place, which at that time was only wheat stubble.

He straightway started to improve the property, and has himself planted every vine and tree on the place. He built a fine dwelling-house and roomy



Karl Madsen

barns and other buildings and things needed, and even erected a tank-house. The farm is served from the Kingsburg and Centerville ditch, and because of the good water service everything planted there flourishes. There are five acres of muscat, seven acres of Thompson's seedless, five acres planted to trees, and two and a half acres of alfalfa, while the balance is given over to buildings, drying yards, barnyards, and similar corners.

In 1892, Mr. Thomsen was married at the Central Colony to Miss Ingeborg Hansina Riggelsen, a native of North Schleswig, who came to America with Mr. Thomsen, they having been engaged to marry in the old country. This happy union has been blessed with seven children: Frederikka, wife of Fred Holm, the rancher and raisin-grower, owning twenty acres in the Parlier School district, is the mother of three children; Lawrence R. was in the aviation service of the United States, and was with our troops in France, he returned home safely in February, 1919, with an excellent record and honorable discharge; Sivert A. is at home, as are Esther M., Anna Maria, and Anna, while Johanna Margrethe is at school. The family attends the Lutheran Church, which Mr. and Mrs. Thomsen helped to organize, and of which Mr. Thomsen is a trustee. Their children are local favorites both because of their personalities and their talents. One for example is a pianist of special promise, although she is only in her sixteenth year, and critics pronounce her accomplishment rare musical ability.

KARL MADSEN.—An energetic, far-seeing man, who believes in the gospel of close application and hard work, and who living according to his belief, has prospered to an extent not granted to everybody, is Karl Madsen, well known as a fine fellow. He was born in Denmark, near Odense, Fyen, on November 26, 1868, the son of Mads Mortensen, who farmed near where he had been born. As a young man he had married Miss Anna Catherina Olsen, and they were blessed with a family of nine children. Five of these were living as late as 1905, and two had come to the American West. Rasmus Madsen, of the Red Bank district, whose interesting story is given elsewhere in this work, is the brother of our subject.

Karl was the youngest son and next to the youngest child, and like most of the family was brought up on his father's well-appointed if modest farm. He attended the excellent Danish common schools and learned the important rudiments of agriculture. He followed farming in Denmark until he went to Australia, whither his brother Marten had emigrated fourteen years before. As a matter of fact, Marten had not written home for years, and when Karl sailed from London on the Duke of Sutherland, bound for Brisbane, in 1888, he did so with some uncertainty as to his immediate future. He sailed to Queensland, found his brother and was soon employed profitably at farm work.

In 1893, however, believing that California offered still greater inducements, Mr. Madsen sailed for the Pacific Coast, this time bent on joining his brother Rasmus, who had settled in Fresno County. After arriving here, he worked for M. Theo. Kearney for five years; and during the last three years of that period he was in charge of Kearney Park and its gardens. In discharging this responsibility he gave entire satisfaction, but having bought ten acres of vineyard five miles west of Fresno, he left his employer to look after his own property. So well did he develop this that he later sold the tract at a good profit.

Then he rented ninety acres of vineyard in the Gray Colony and was so successful that he bought seventy acres there, and improved twenty for vineyard purposes. He planted alfalfa, individually built a ditch a mile from the Enterprise Canal, and while running the place for four years amply demonstrated his familiarity with vineyarding in California. When he was ready to sell, he had no trouble in disposing of his property at a higher figure than he had paid for it. He next bought a thirty-acre vineyard west

of Fresno, known as the Estrella vineyard; set it out anew with muscats, and ran that for five years, making it more than pay for itself, and selling it in 1913 at some gain. Then for a while he rented and operated vineyards.

At present Mr. Madsen is leasing both the L. Jensen and the George P. Dyreborg places, consisting of about 150 acres in Gray Colony, forty of which he has laid out for vineyarding, while seven and a half acres are given up to an orchard, and much of the balance to the raising of grain. Whatever he undertakes seems to prosper under his wise management. Naturally enough, Mr. Madsen is one of the active supporters of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc., and he has come to be known as one of the substantial viticulturists and horticulturists of Sanger.

MANUEL VINCENT.—No other country save the United States may boast of such unrivalled opportunities for the man of humble birth and discouraging circumstances, and in no other State of this glorious Union will be found so large a number of those who, like Manuel Vincent, once a blacksmith and now one of the leading financiers of Selma, have climbed from the very lowest rung of the ladder, and in climbing have raised still higher the standard of California. Born in Flores, the most westerly of the balmy Azores, on November 4, 1863, Mr. Vincent is the son of John Vincent, school teacher, contractor, builder and farmer who died when Manuel was four years old. His mother, Mary Vincent came to America and California, and died in Mariposa County. All that the subject of our story recalls of his parents is lovable and edifying, and what a worthy son would delight in remembering.

On account of the success attending the ventures of two of the oldest sons in the family, who had located in Tuttletown, Tuolumne County, Cal., Mrs. Vincent left the Azores in the fall of 1871 with Manuel, who was then eight, two sisters and two brothers, and joined the enterprising boys. For a while Manuel attended the public school in his neighborhood, and then he set out on a kind of journeyman's tour through the county, his object being to learn the blacksmith trade. Later, and while still a poor young man, he traveled from Indian Gulch, Mariposa County, to Traver in Tulare County, to see a friend; and passing through Selma, he had his first view of the town. The first extensive ditch—the Centerville and Kingsburg Irrigation Canal—had then been built and completed; the railway had put in a siding and erected a depot; and the station was called Selma.

In 1887, Mr. Vincent closed out his business in Mariposa County and struck out. He remembered Selma, and made haste to reach here, getting a job, as soon as he arrived, in a blacksmith shop, where he worked by the day. Later, in the same year, he bought an interest in the shop, succeeding W. H. Harris, as the partner of W. L. Jones, the firm having been Jones & Harris, and then becoming known as Jones & Vincent; and in May, 1889, he bought Jones out. From that day the firm was styled M. Vincent. In May, 1890, however, his shop was burned out. The old shop was on West Front Street, and was owned by another person; but the stock was a loss to Mr. Vincent: only \$600 in insurance being reclaimable. Thereupon he rented another place, and within two weeks he had a full complement of blacksmith tools. In 1895 he moved his shop to East Front Street, having bought out Warner Brothers' property there the year previous; and soon thereafter he added a line of general farm implements, and there he continued until 1906.

In the meantime Mr. Vincent had become a stockholder in the First National Bank of Selma, although it was not until 1907 that he closed out his blacksmith business and continued only as a dealer in implements, remaining in that line for ten years. In 1905 he helped organize the Selma Savings Bank, going in as an original director; and in 1912 he became president of that flourishing institution. He also became vice-president of the First National Bank of Selma, assuming that responsibility in 1915. In many

ways, and with varied enterprises, Mr. Vincent has prospered, having been interested at one time in several retail lumber yards in Central California.

Mr. Vincent opened his present attractive office at 1810 East Front Street, in October, 1917, under the firm name of M. Vincent & Son; and there he deals with success in real estate and insurance, being ably assisted by his son, G. Paul Vincent. The latter is a graduate not only of the Selma High School, but of the Chicago Veterinary College, finishing his studies with the Class of 1911. Although he then received with honors the degree of Doctor of Veterinary Science, he has never practiced his profession.

Mr. Vincent, now widely recognized as a business man of sound principles, is also a director in the First National Bank of Kingsburg and a director in the First National Bank of Sanger. Always a public-spirited citizen, he has twice served as trustee of the City of Selma. He has also been chairman of the board, and he was second fire-chief of the city.

In the town where he has thus enjoyed so much prosperity, Mr. Vincent was married to Miss Laura Paul, a native of Kansas, who came to Selma when she was a young woman. Six children have blessed this union. G. Paul, his father's partner, married Miss Eleanor Bellamy; and they have two children, Paula and Phyllis. Nellie is the wife of K. L. Self, a rancher near Selma. They have one child, a boy, named Kenneth Vincent Self. Mildred married P. D. Register, of San Pedro, Los Angeles County, where he went into training for the United States heavy artillery. While in this service his motorcycle accidentally collided with an electric car at Long Beach and he met instantaneous death on the 28th day of September 1918. Since then, on the eighth day of December, 1918, a baby girl, named Beverly Duane Register, was born; the child and widowed mother are living at the home of Mr. Vincent, in Selma. Winnifred is in the Selma High School, as is also Walter; and Corinne is in the grammar school.

Mr. Vincent and family attend the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Vincent is a member of the board of trustees of the church, and he served on its building committee, and became one of the largest donors to the fund by which the magnificent new brick edifice was erected at Selma, in 1917. His practical Christianity has led him to espouse the principles of the Prohibition party, and he takes especial pride in the fact that Selma was the first town in Fresno County to declare for the abolition of the iniquitous traffic in alcohol.

Very naturally, Mr. Vincent is a fraternity man, and one enjoying an enviable popularity. He is a member of the Blue Lodge of Masons at Selma, and has been through all the chairs. He is a Royal Arch Mason at Selma, a Knight Templar at Fresno and the Islam Temple at San Francisco. He also is active in the Knights of Pythias and the Woodmen of the World, and is a Forester. Mr. and Mrs. Vincent are members of the Eastern Star at Selma.

OLIN C. UNDERWOOD.—As janitor of the West Side Grammar School for the past ten years, Olin C. Underwood is a well known figure in Reedley, Fresno County, and especially to the children of that thriving little city. Born in McHenry County, Ill., November 27, 1855, he is the son of Honorable James and Melissa (Gardner) Underwood, the former a native of Ohio, and the latter of Pennsylvania. They were the parents of six children, two of whom are now living in California. The family moved from Illinois to Iowa in 1870, and there followed farming. James Underwood, the father, was a man of considerable ability, and served as a member of the legislature in Iowa. He farmed in Grundy and in Greene Counties. He was killed by the cars at Grand Junction, Iowa, while pursuing his daily work of delivering milk to his customers.

Previous to his coming to California, Olin C. Underwood held the office of township assessor in Palo Alto County, Iowa, for seven years. Later he was a candidate for county auditor but failed of the nomination. For twenty

years he was a locomotive engineer on the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad, and left of his own accord to engage in farming. In conjunction with his duties of janitor of the grammar school, Mr. Underwood is a rancher, now the owner of fifteen acres of fine land. He originally owned forty acres, but he sold ten acres to his son, Byron C., and fifteen acres to another party, retaining the balance; twenty-five acres of this property he developed from a stubble field.

In 1881, Mr. Underwood was united in marriage with Laura C. Cook, a native of Iowa, born near Burlington in 1858. Nine children have been born of this union: Bessie C.; Minnie E.; Byron C.; Albert E.; Mildred E.; Esther L.; William Otis; Harold C.; and Luella, who married Edwin Greene of Dinuba, in May, 1917, and they had a baby son, named Samuel, born July 14, 1918. Mr. Underwood is a member of Highland Lodge, A. F. & A. M., at Ruthven, Iowa; politically he is a Republican. Since 1911 he has worked in the fruit industry for others as an orchard foreman and as receiver at the warehouses.

There is one matter of interest that makes Mr. Underwood a very proud man, and that is the service that his four sons rendered their country during the great World War. Byron C., although a married man, entered the service October 5, 1917, as a member of Company F, Three Hundred Sixty-fourth Infantry, Ninety-first Division, went to France with the latter and was discharged May 25, 1919. Albert E., entered the service July 25, 1917, was assigned to the Eighth Infantry, Medical Department, reached France on November 9, 1918, and is still in service at Brest. William Otis entered the United States Navy on May 20, 1917, trained at Mare Island, was assigned to the destroyer U. S. S. Taylor, did convoy duty from July, 1918, until his discharge on April 15, 1919, with the position of Third Quartermaster. He was in the line and saw the surrender of the German fleet, and his was the flagship of the convoy that escorted President Wilson into Brest on his first trip to France. Harold C. entered the service in June, 1918, in the One Hundred Sixteenth Engineers, trained at Norfolk, Va., saw service in France, was discharged April 15, 1919, as Corporal.

WM. D. BECKWITH.—Although Mr. Beckwith is living a somewhat retired life, his fellows never forget that he was for years a leader to whom they might look with confidence. He is energetic for his age, and still tries to be useful; and this is only natural to one who has led such a long and useful life.

He was born in Clinton County, N. Y., August 1, 1841, and reared and educated there; and under the flourishing conditions of the Empire State he early turned his attention to the cultivation of the soil. When the dark clouds of the Civil War arose, he promptly volunteered his services and was attached to the First New York Engineers. He was engaged at the siege of Petersburg and Richmond, was at Farmville and finally at Appomattox Court House where Lee surrendered. At the close of the war he received an honorable discharge and again took up the burden and the pleasurable duties of civil life.

In 1871, Mr. Beckwith removed to Kansas where he farmed for twenty years, and where, at that time, buffalo were roaming the prairies. On account of the sickness of his wife, who was Josie Norris, in maidenhood, he shifted to Nebraska, and there for four years he engaged in business as a merchant. His wife's health not improving, he finally came to California, and in 1908 took up his residence in Fresno, where Mrs. Beckwith died in 1910. She, too, was a native of New York, and she endeared herself to all who became acquainted with her. Such has been the consistent, unselfish life of both Mr. and Mrs. Beckwith that wherever they have lived, there they have left an enviable record for kindly endeavor.



Ida R. Robertson



James M. Robertson

Six children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Beckwith, four of whom are still living: Mrs. G. H. Smith, of Fresno; Mrs. F. Barber, also of Fresno; F. L. Beckwith, of Nebraska; and B. H. Beckwith of Sanger. The latter was born in Kansas, in 1881, and was ten years of age when his folks removed to Nebraska. In 1912 he married Miss Bertha, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Van Fleet, and at his marriage his father gave him a deed to his ranch of forty acres in the Sanger district. He was a carpenter by trade, and he contracted for building in both San Francisco and Fresno, but he has later given his attention to the ranch, which he has set out to peaches and apricots. In time he intends to plant the entire ranch to English walnuts, which he believes will prove even more remunerative. Mr. Beckwith has been in the County since 1905, having preceded his parents, and has been closely identified with Fresno's development.

W. D. Beckwith is a member of the Grand Army Post in Fresno. In politics he is a Progressive Republican and a warm friend of Hiram Johnson.

JAMES MacGREGOR ROBERTSON.—From the sturdy Scotch people, who have been such an important factor in the upbuilding of American civilization, is James MacG. Robertson, a native of Bridge of Ern, Perthshire, Scotland, where he was born in 1863, a son of Andrew and Ann (Barnett) Robertson, both natives of the "land of heather," where they were farmer folks.

James MacG. Robertson was reared in Scotland until twenty years of age, when he emigrated to America, landing at New York City, but soon afterwards drifted to the Pacific Coast, arriving at San Francisco. After a short stay in the city by the Golden Gate he located at Fresno, where he followed his trade of a carpenter and engaged in the building business in Fresno County. Afterwards Mr. Robertson located in Hanford, where he engaged in contracting and building, and to his credit and superior workmanship are due some of the most substantial buildings in that city.

It was in Hanford that Mr. Robertson met and married Miss Ida Rose Adams, the ceremony being solemnized on September 7, 1892. Mrs. Robertson is a native of Louisiana, Mo., a daughter of John F. Adams, a native of Virginia who settled in Missouri before the Civil War. During that war he served valiantly in the Third Missouri Regiment of Cavalry, in the Union Army, being wounded in action during battle. After his honorable discharge from the army, Mr. Adams was united in marriage in Louisiana, Mo., with Martha Tipton, a native of Kentucky. John F. Adams was a manufacturer of agricultural implements, carriages and wagons in Louisiana, Mo. Afterwards he removed to New Haven, Mo., where he ran a blacksmith and carriage-shop and it was while living there that Mr. Adams was honored with the office of mayor of New Haven, to which responsible position he was elected for four terms of office. In 1888, J. F. Adams migrated with his family to California, locating at Traver, and it was while living there that he was bereft of his life companion. After her death, Mr. Adams moved to Hanford where he engaged in business and continued to reside until his death on January 6, 1914. Mrs. Robertson was the only child of Mr. and Mrs. Adams who grew to maturity.

After his marriage, James MacG. Robertson, continued in the contracting and building business, and, about 1905, became interested in the Coalinga oil-field, becoming a stockholder in the Lucile Oil Company. He located in Coalinga where he engaged in contracting and building until 1906 when he removed to San Francisco immediately after the big fire and there followed the building business. After a residence of one year in San Francisco, following the great fire, he returned to Coalinga and became the president and manager of the Lucile Oil Company. On the oil company's leased land Mr. Robertson built a substantial residence of brick that were made and burned on the land. He was a very successful oil operator, a liberal and kind-hearted

man who had the happy faculty of making and retaining many friends, and he continued as president of the Lucile Oil Company until his death, on March 27, 1912.

After his death Mrs. Robertson assumed the responsibilities of president, being assisted in the management of the company by her son Kenneth for two years prior to his enlistment in the Medical Department of the Eighth Infantry, U. S. A., serving over-seas and now stationed at Coblenz. The Lucile Oil Company is located on Sec. 6-21-15, comprising 100 acres of land, and at present has three producing wells.

Mr. and Mrs. James MacG. Robertson were the parents of five sons, four of whom grew up: Kenneth, a graduate of the Coalinga High School, now over-seas; James, who was accidentally killed at the age of fourteen, while out hunting; Douglas, who graduated from the Coalinga High School in 1917, and had the honor of winning the second place in the interscholastic tract meet; Frederick, also a graduate of Coalinga High School in 1917, and who held the record for pole-vaulting, and who passed away in April, 1918.

Fraternally, Mr. Robertson was a member of Coalinga Lodge of Masons, was affiliated with the Order of the Eastern Star, and was a member of the Fresno Lodge of Elks. Religiously he was reared in the Presbyterian Church, and in politics was a Progressive Republican. He was greatly interested in educational matters and was prominently identified with the work of the Coalinga School District, having served as its trustee and was active in the work of the board when the new grammar school was built. Mrs. Robertson is a member of the Baptist Church, and also a member of Eschscholtzia Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star.

RALPH M. CONE.—In the vicinity of Reedley is located the productive sixty-acre ranch owned by the firm of Dexter & Cone, of which R. M. Cone is the resident manager. This ranch is developed to a high state of production and is devoted to the growing of Thompson's seedless grapes. Mr. Cone is thoroughly conversant with the propagation and cultivation of vines and has been steadily working on his own property since 1911.

A native of Windhall, Bennington County, Vt., R. M. Cone was born on May 10, 1878, a son of Ira and Ida (Lathrop) Cone, both born there. There were six children in their family, of whom R. M. is the only one to make his home on the Pacific Coast. He received his education in the public schools of his native state, after which he worked at various tasks for some time, one of them being a coachman for Rear Admiral H. B. Robeson, U. S. N., in whose employ he remained for four years. Mr. Cone subsequently became connected with the Vermont Marble Company, the largest marble works in the world, and in time he worked his way to a foremanship, which he held for seven years, three years of this time being spent in the plant in Vermont and the balance at their branch plant in San Francisco. He worked very diligently in the interest of his company. The years following the great fire in San Francisco were busy ones for Mr. Cone and he had much to do with material reconstruction there, until he resigned to come here.

In 1911, Mr. Cone purchased an interest in the ranch where he now lives and since that date has given his entire attention to improving the place. When he located on the ranch there were but four small pepper trees on the place, an old house and a lean-to stable; now he has one of the best developed ranches in the district, all the result of his own labor. He was one of the largest alfalfa raisers in this section of the county in early days. Five crops of alfalfa were cut each season and a ready market was found for the output of the ranch. In this particular part of the work Mr. Cone proved himself an adept, as he and his crew baled as high as eighteen tons per day for others. Under the able management of Mr. Cone the ranch is fast developing into a fine dividend-payer, the soil being very productive. The fifty-seven acres now given to vines are in Thompson's seedless.

On June 27, 1912, the marriage that united R. M. Cone with Miss Mary A. Wetherbee, was celebrated at Eugene, Ore., and they have one son, Marion. Mrs. Cone is a daughter of John F. Wetherbee and was born in Manchester, Bennington County, Vt., on December 24, 1880. She traces her ancestry back to a great-grandfather, Job Dean, who was with General Washington at Valley Forge. After Mrs. Cone had completed the grades in her home school she took a course at the Burr & Burton Seminary, a private institution in her home town. In 1897 the Wetherbee family moved to Oregon, where her father engaged in the milling business. In that state the daughter attended the University of Oregon and later graduated from the State Normal at Monmouth. She then took up teaching and for one year taught in the schools in Albany. Her next location was at Eugene, where she remained for five years as assistant principal, and one year in another department. For two years thereafter she was connected with the Glencoe School at Portland, as an instructor, after which she came to California. When she took up her residence in Fresno County, about sixteen months after Mr. Cone had been here, she was requested to register her life certificate in order to be available as a teacher in any grade should the exigency of the case demand. Mr. and Mrs. Cone are highly esteemed by their many friends and a delightful hospitality is dispensed at their home. Mr. Cone is an enthusiastic member and district correspondent in the California Associated Raisin Company.

DR. THOMAS D. SMITH.—Eminently associated with the recent development of Central California, is Dr. Thomas D. Smith, one of the progressive representatives of the medical profession in the State, and a physician of exceptional experience and attainments even before he came to the Pacific Coast. He was born in Hancock County, Ohio, on November 17, 1864, the son of James P. Smith, a native of England who migrated to America during his boyhood days, with his father, Benjamin Smith. The family located awhile at Quebec, then came into the United States, to Wheeling, W. Va., and from there to Hancock County, in the Buckeye State. The father was a farmer and became well-to-do; and he lived to the ripe old age of eighty-three. James Smith had married Christina McGarry, of French and English descent, and of a prominent old family of Virginia, and to them were born four children: Irwin H., of Marion, Mich.; Anna L. Bunnell, of Mt. Blanchard, Ohio; Charles C., a physician of King Hill, Idaho; and Thomas D.

Thomas' boyhood was passed on his father's farm in Hancock County and in attending the district school, and later he went to the high school at Mt. Blanchard. He was also a student, for a year, at Wooster (Ohio) University. Then he entered the offices of Drs. Gemmell & Mundy and studied under them; and after that he matriculated at the Cincinnati Eclectic Medical College, where he completed the regular medical course and graduated with the Class of '92. He then took a postgraduate course in the New York Post-Graduate College, during 1892 and 1893, and during that time was on the staff of physicians of the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital. These opportunities for experience and research in the metropolis of the New World, wisely improved, have contributed much to Dr. Smith's scientific knowledge and technical proficiency.

Very soon after Dr. Smith's graduation, in June, 1892, he was united in marriage to Miss Flora Williams, a member of the famous Roger Williams family, who graduated as a Doctor of Medicine from the same college, and whose life story, as his helpmate and a woman of prominence in medical, sociological and legislative circles, is given elsewhere in this work. He then came to California and practiced for a year at Yreka, Siskiyou County, but returned to Cleveland where he was engaged on the medical staff of the municipality. In 1897 he went to Bremen, near South Bend, Ind., and there engaged in general practice, until 1911.

With characteristic Kingsburg enterprise, Dr Smith, in 1915, in association with his equally ambitious wife, erected the imposing Smith Block, one of the best-arranged office buildings in the San Joaquin Valley. Besides ample suites of rooms for both Drs. Thomas D. and Flora W. Smith, it contains a dentist's office and well-equipped operating rooms, and an attractive reception room.

Dr. Smith still follows a general practice; and being a man of the strictest integrity and disposed to give the closest personal attention to the wants of his patients, he has been phenomenally successful and is regarded as a scholarly leader in his profession. Together with his talented wife he is prominent in Masonic circles, and at the same time, like her, never misses an opportunity to advance the public weal and to improve the health conditions, as well as to support, in a substantial manner, those institutions of particular value to Kingsburg and Fresno County. Among these are the California Raisin Growers' Association and the California Peach Growers' Association, in both of which he is a shareholder.

JESPER JENSEN.—A public-spirited, generous-hearted pioneer, who has been a hard worker, and through his enterprising labors has become closely and honorably identified with the history of Fresno County, so that he may justly claim with modest pride that he has helped to develop the great state in which he is an honored, patriotic citizen, Jesper Jensen is the head of a family equally as popular as himself. He came to Fresno at the beginning of the nineties, and in the fall of 1918 bought the ranch of thirteen acres which he now owns and operates on the Mill Ditch Road, one mile northeast of Selma, where he has his pretty home; and he has become, more and more, a force making for California ideals.

He was born on the island of Fyen, in Denmark, on January 15, 1858, attended the Danish public schools, and at the age of fourteen was confirmed in the Lutheran Church. His father was Jens Clausen, who had married in Denmark, Maren Jespersen; and he was a farmer doing well on a small estate. There were four children, only two of whom are now living: Anna, the widow of Lars Jorgensen, living on Maple Avenue; and Jesper, the subject of our sketch. The second in order of birth and preceding him was also named Jesper, and died a lad in Denmark; and Magdalene, the youngest, died there when she was four years old.

Jesper was the first of the family to come to America, and when twenty years of age he sailed from Copenhagen on the old Allen line, landing at Quebec in July, 1879. Without much delay, he came west to Lincoln, Placer County, Cal., where he had a niece, still living there, Mrs. Caroline Johnson, the wife of Chris Johnson, the placer miner; and as soon as he had unpacked, he engaged to work on a farm by the month. He early got into the work of running machines for threshing; and he followed threshing for seven seasons.

The next year after reaching Placer County, Mr. Jensen sent for his parents, and for some time he had the pleasure of their companionship in his own home. Finally the father died, and then Mr. Jensen in 1890 came to Fresno and worked on various fruit and raisin ranches. In time, also, his mother breathed her last; and when he had laid away her sacred remains, he had the quiet satisfaction of knowing that he had fulfilled his duty as a son.

In 1893 he was married to Sine Petersen of Fresno, a daughter of Maitias Petersen, who died in Denmark, and who had married Marven Katrine Christensen who is now living at the ripe old age of eighty-two, with the Jensens. After marriage, the Jensens rented a fruit and raisin ranch in the Scandinavian Colony. Later, they rented other farms in other places, in each case assuming more responsibility and getting better and better results. Finally, he bought twenty acres on Maple Avenue, and then bought



A. N. Backer

twenty more; and although he eventually sold these, he purchased as much as the two ranches combined, and that purchase constituted his very desirable property, on Adams Avenue, four miles east of Fowler, which he sold in June, 1918. With unusual foresight, Mr. Jensen improved his land and brought it to a high state of cultivation.

Mr. and Mrs. Jensen have one child, Clarence, who is fifteen years old. They attend the Danish Lutheran Church at Selma. Mr. Jensen is active in church work and while at Easton helped to organize an Evangelical Danish Lutheran Church. He is a naturalized American citizen, glad and proud of the fact; and loyal and enthusiastically, with his good helpmate, supported the Administration and aided whenever possible in war work. Wherever the Jensens live, they are highly esteemed.

AUGUST H. BACKER.—Among the most progressive, successful and best-known viticulturists in California must be rated August H. Backer, president of the Backer Vineyard Company, in Fresno County. He was the son of Henry Hine Backer, who was born in Holland in 1824, was a sailor for years, and after his adventurous life on the ocean made safe harbor in the United States, landing from a sailing vessel in San Francisco Bay in 1849. Going at once to the mines in Sierra County, he mined for about twenty years in the placers there; but in 1877, lured by the stories he heard from those who knew about Fresno County and its possible future, he came here and located in Temperance Colony on sixty acres of land which he secured. After setting out the first vineyard on twenty acres, he went back to Sierra County to settle up some business he had left, and died there in April, 1879. Henry Hine Backer was a Mason. The mother of A. H. Backer was Augusta Busch before her marriage. She was born in Germany, came to California in 1863, married Mr. Backer in Sierra County, and contributed much to his business success as well as to his domestic happiness. She died on September 1, 1904, the mother of six children, all of whom grew to years of maturity, namely: Lena, Mrs. Bond; Hilca, Mrs. Hagerty, now deceased; and August H., Henry H., Dora W., and George W.

August H. Backer was born in Sierra County, September 28, 1866, came to Fresno County in 1878, attended school in Temperance Colony, and later put in a year at Heald's Business College in San Francisco, graduating in 1891. He then took up general farming in partnership with his brothers, and managed the home place for ten years. He increased the vineyard from the original twenty acres to sixty acres and made of it one of the most attractive places in the neighborhood.

In 1889 the Backer family bought land in Kutner Colony. This they improved and lived there for ten years. The property is still owned by the Backer Vineyard Company. The present home-place of Mr. Backer consists of twenty acres of vineyard, but with his brothers he operates and owns other vineyards and grain lands. After the death of the mother, in 1904, the other members of the family incorporated the Backer Vineyard Company, of which August H. is president. The company own 120 acres in Temperance and Kutner Colonies, all in vineyard, and a tract of 800 acres of grain land north of Sanger. Mr. Backer, with his brothers, engaged in viticulture and farming, buying, improving and selling lands. They owned 120 acres in the Mt. Campbell Orange Tract, near Reedley. This they set to vines and sold as well as other places they have owned from time to time. About 1910 the Backer Vineyard Company, with George Roeding, packed a car-load of emperor table grapes in drums packed with redwood sawdust, shipped it to New York and there placed it in cold storage until the Christmas market, and then sold it. This was the first car-load lot of table grapes shipped East in this manner, and proved a success. It established a precedent that has resulted in the development of a business of large proportions in the state. In 1918 the Backer Vineyard Company shipped to the East twelve car-loads of emperors in sawdust. One car-load sold in Washington for \$3,600. One

car-load from Mr. Backer's home place sold in New York for \$3,500. The place of twenty acres, where Mr. Backer erected a modern residence and now makes his home, has been his property for over thirty years. In 1918 the Backer brothers divided their individual property and dissolved partnership, and each is now operating for himself, with the exception of the Backer Vineyard Company, which is owned by all members of the family.

At Vallejo, October 21, 1894, August H. Backer and Mary A. Gee were married. She was born in England in 1869, and came to the United States with her parents. Three children blessed this union: August, a graduate from the Fresno High and the Junior College, now serving in the American Expeditionary Forces in France, as a corporal in the aviation section; Harry, attending the Fresno High; and Irene. On July 9, 1911, Mr. Backer was bereaved of his wife, who was mourned by a large circle of friends.

Mr. Backer is a trustee of Temperance Colony school district, and for twelve years has been clerk of the board. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. His record is time-tested proof that well-directed ambition and intelligent application will bring a man large returns, especially if he be wide-awake to choose favoring conditions and a promising field for his operations.

JOHN E. EKLUND.—Aggressive and progressive, whether as mechanic, business man or rancher, John E. Eklund never allows any grass to grow under his feet, and he has such a reputation for honesty and uprightness that everybody regards his prosperity as something quite natural, and interest in both his romantic past and in his promising future is bound to be doubled. Active and energetic to an unusual degree, and reaping as the result almost a phenomenal reward, Mr. Eklund recently did a business of \$56,000 a year, and that is a matter of moment for even such a live city as Kingsburg. He is favored, too, with an accomplished wife of strong character and pleasing beauty, who shares with him a well-earned popularity for good works.

On June 2, 1880, Mr. Eklund was born at East Jutland, Sweden, the son of Carl and Emma Nicholson Peterson; the difference in names being explainable by the peculiar system of the Scandinavian people in respect to varying family names, and the fact that John E. Peterson took the name of Eklund when he entered the Swedish Army. For thirty years his father had rented a large farm, and there our subject was born and grew up, accustomed to the raising of grain and cattle. The elder Peterson was a very hard working man, but he reared a family of nine children, the youngest dying when he was nineteen years old. Two of the sons, C. O. and David Peterson, came to America and are now farming near Kingsburg; while a daughter, Anna, is the wife of C. E. Erickson, a farmer in Tulare and Kings counties, who resides in Fresno County, and another daughter, Esther, is the wife of A. E. Gustafson, a rancher also residing in Fresno County. John E. is the third son and the fourth child born to this worthy couple.

Attending the local public schools as a boy, John, being large and strong, was early given hard work on the farm, while he was brought up according to the strict tenets of the Baptist Church. At nineteen he enlisted in the Swedish army and took the regular corporal's examination, and after doing his full duty for two years as a loyal subject of the king, he decided to come to America, drawn hither by the brothers and sisters already mentioned, who had located in Chicago. For a while he worked out on a farm in Bureau County, Ill., and then he began to learn the carpenter trade. His first position was with the McCormick Harvester Works; but the next winter he went to St. Louis and secured employment at the World's Fair, where he aided in erecting the imposing buildings.

Despite the many attractions of the East, however, especially to a mechanic who was so rapidly demonstrating his ability, Mr. Eklund came out to California the next year, accompanied by his brother-in-law, C. E. Erickson,

and stopped at Kingsburg. Finding an opening in Los Angeles, he went to work there for six months, and when he came back to Kingsburg, he bought forty acres in conjunction with his brother, C. O. Peterson, and he and his brother-in-law improved it. Peterson lived and worked on the place, while Mr. Eklund followed carpentering and put his earnings into the farm. Three years later, he sold his interest.

He then went to Seattle and worked as a carpenter on the Alaska, Yukon and Pacific Exposition buildings; and again he displayed as a mechanic the original stuff that was in him. Before going north he had built a house at Kingsburg, and after returning from Seattle he traded the dwelling for an eighty-acre farm northeast of Kingsburg. Sixty acres of the land he resold, and the balance he improved to a high state of cultivation.

Pitching his tent once more in Los Angeles, Mr. Eklund entered the building trade, erecting and selling houses. He put up and disposed successfully of as many as ten houses of his own, and he also built others on contract. So well did he prosper, that he soon entered on the most important of all responsibilities—marriage. Meeting in the City of the Angels one of the most attractive of Kingsburg girls, Miss Selma Danell, he took her for his wife; nor has his judgment ever served him to better advantage. She was born in Kansas, the daughter of Charles and Anna Elg Danell, both of whom are now living at Kingsburg; and with her parents she came to California when she was nine years old.

On taking up their residence at Kingsburg, Mr. and Mrs. Eklund bought thirty-five acres on the west side of the town, and there built a bungalow for their home. At the same time Mr. Eklund bought out G. Edward Damelson, the proprietor of the Kingsburg Implement Company, the transaction taking place in 1912. He commenced to handle wagons and buggies, to sell farm implements and to do plumbing; but later he gave up plumbing work and made a specialty of automobiles and car accessories. In this department of modern activity he became a leader. He had the Kingsburg agency for the Chevrolet and Lexington automobiles, and made many sales.

Among Mr. Eklund's land operations in which he has been particularly successful, must be mentioned the disposal of thirty-five acres that he subdivided. He again bought more land of which he had ten acres in grain and four acres in town lots. He is a member and stockholder in both the California Raisin Association and the California Peach Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Eklund are members of the Swedish Baptist Church at Kingsburg. They have three children: Joseph Walden; Esther Margaret; and Violet, born May 2, 1919.

Mr. Eklund purchased eighty acres of raw land, four and a half miles southeast of Kingsburg, in September, 1918. He then sold his business in Kingsburg in order to improve his land. He put down a well, installed a pumping plant and built a house. He bought an International (8-16) gasoline tractor and operates it himself. He also owns a twenty-acre alfalfa ranch which lies one-half mile south of his eighty. He also sold his residence and other city property in Kingsburg, in order to give his whole time to planting and improving this eighty-acre tract, which will be planted to raisin and table grapes, mostly Thompson's seedless.

JOHN HEIDENREICH.—A fine old German-American gentleman who turned his back on the political institutions of his native land because of his dislike of the burden of militarism, and who is loyal and true to his adopted country and especially pleased with California, in which state he has had such success that he has indeed found it "Golden," is John Heidenreich, who came to Vinland somewhat more than a decade ago. He was born in Bavaria on January 25, 1845, the son of John Heidenreich, a farmer there who was a leader in the Revolution of 1848 and died in the year following. His wife had been Margaret Betz before her marriage, and she also died in Germany, the mother of seven children, among whom John was the second youngest.

He was brought up on a farm, attended the public schools, and in 1867 entered the German army, enlisting with the artillery and serving such time as was expected of him. When the war with France commenced in 1870, he was called out and fought until the close of the war, being wounded in the left temple, and he received an honorable discharge. Soon afterward, he decided to try his fortune in the New World; and in October, 1871, he arrived in New York and proceeded to Illinois, where he settled for three years near Elgin. Then he went farther west to Sac County, Iowa, and bought 160 acres of railroad land, which he soon improved from its raw state.

In 1903, Mr. Heidenreich made his first trip to California, and having seen Fresno County, he liked the prospect so well that he bought forty acres, to commence with, on Madera Avenue. He made arrangements to set out an orchard and to plant to alfalfa, and then he returned East. Four years later he left his Iowa property to be operated by his son and located on his ranch in Fresno County, which he set out in great part with vines, mostly Thompson seedless, and operates himself. He built an attractive residence, added other improvements, made his place not only attractive to the eye but of interest to the viticulturist, and joined the California Associated Raisin Co.

In Iowa, Mr. Heidenreich married Miss Mary Raab, a native of Germany, who died in Fresno, the mother of twelve children: Anne and Rachel are both dead; Mathilda is Mrs. Darling of Colorado; Barbara has become Mrs. Rising of Wall Lake, Iowa; Kate is the wife of Chris Seib, a sergeant-major in the United States Army in France; Maggie is Mrs. Wingert of South Dakota; Joseph is in Iowa on his father's farm; Clara, who is Mrs. Winchell, lives in Fresno; Lillie is Mrs. Glavenicht of Berkeley; John was a sergeant in the United States Army, and served in France; and Cecilie and Marie are at home. The family attends the Roman Catholic Church of Fresno and Mr. Heidenreich seeks to elevate the standards of good citizenship through activity in national politics in the Democratic party.

N. L. HOYER.—Because N. L. Hoyer early put his shoulder to the wheel and helped to develop and build up Central California, he himself has become a successful rancher, distinguished for his enterprise and progressive methods, and surrounded by well-wishing friends on account of his kindheartedness and liberality. He was on the West Side for some years and so was fortunate in locating oil land. He still has important interests at Huron.

He was born at Svendborg, Island of Fyen, Denmark, on July 13, 1859, the son of Lars Mogensen, and when the government authorized the adoption of family names, he chose that of Hoyer. His mother had been Maren Larsen, and she died in 1868, followed fourteen years later by her husband. The parents were farmer-folk and highly respected in the community in which they lived. There were three sons, and N. L. was the second, as he is the only one now living. He was reared on the home farm and attended the local Danish school, and when fourteen he started to paddle his own canoe by working out for other farmers. Seven years later he entered the Danish navy and at the end of the required time for patriotic service he was honorably discharged.

On June 5, 1884, he came to Fresno and went to work in a vineyard in the Central Colony, learning horticulture and viticulture. In the fall of 1887, he went to the West Side, and at Huron took up a preemption claim of 160 acres two and a half miles north of that place. He improved it, and proved up on it in 1888, and then took a homestead, the northeast quarter in section 12-20-14. He built a home and fulfilled the requirements of the law, and proved up on it, obtaining a government deed. When oil development began in that section, he sold out at a good profit.

Fortunately, Mr. Hoyer had previously returned to the vicinity of Fresno and bought the present place of forty acres at Rolinda on White's Bridge Road. It was raw land, being under the ditch, but he set to work, leveled



N. L. Hoyer.

it and planted alfalfa, at the same time engaging in dairying and stock-raising. He finally sold his homestead in the Coalinga district, and then he built a residence on his home-place, so that now he has a fine home-ranch. He set out a vineyard of sultana, malaga and wine-grapes, and made a model farm-property. He still owns the ranch at Huron.

In 1904, Mr. Hoyer made his first trip back to Denmark, to see the old home and friends, and three years later he made a second trip to Denmark. The same year, 1907, on his return to Fresno, he was married to Maren Nielsen, a native of Denmark, by whom he has had three children: Dagmar, Walter, and Chester. He not only belongs to the Danish Brotherhood, but he is an ex-president of that organization.

Mr. Hoyer is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association and was a director in it for many years. He is a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and also of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Prune and Apricot Association.

DAVID SCOTT.—The Kerman district is fortunate in having such a public-spirited citizen as David Scott, rancher, of the Empire Colony, and formerly justice of the peace of Township 11, and a lawyer of many years of experience in the Middle West.

Mr. Scott is a native of the Buckeye State, having first seen the light of day at Saint Paris, near Urbana, Champaign County, Ohio, on November 19, 1868. His parents were Rev. David and Mary J. (Lippincott) Scott, both natives of Ohio, the father having been born in Logan County, the mother in Lima. Rev. David Scott was an able pioneer preacher of the Baptist Church in Ohio where he continued his faithful work until 1873 when he located in Beloit, Mitchell County, Kans., and engaged in farming as well as continuing his work of preaching the gospel and was instrumental in organizing churches all over the northwestern portion of Kansas. After many years of faithful service in the vineyard of the Lord, the Rev. David Scott retired in 1890, and continued to reside in Kansas until his removal to Harrisonville, Mo., where his devoted wife passed away in 1896, after which he returned to Ohio where he died in February, 1904. At Myrtle tree, Ohio, he organized the first Baptist Church and preached the dedicatory sermon when the first church building was erected, and fifty years later attended the dedicatory services upon the occasion of the completion of a new church edifice, on the same site, when he preached the dedicatory sermon. During the Civil War, Rev. David Scott was a first lieutenant in the Forty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which was in command of Gen. James A. Garfield, who later became President of the United States of America, being inaugurated on March 4, 1881, was shot July 2, by an assassin, and died September 19, 1881.

The Rev. David Scott and wife were the parents of nine children, three of whom, all boys, are still living, the subject of this review, Judge David Scott, being the second youngest; Tully Scott, the oldest brother, is Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Colorado; L. W. Scott, the other brother, is a broker, residing in Kansas City, Mo.

When about five years of age, David Scott removed with his parents from Ohio to Kansas where he attended the public school of his district, and also at Chillicothe, Mo., and for one year had the privilege of attending that splendid educational institution of the Baptist Church, William Jewell College, situated at Liberty, Mo. Afterwards he became contest clerk, in the United States Government Land Office at Oberlin, Kans. Having decided to enter professional circles, David Scott took up the study of jurisprudence and in due time was admitted to the bar, taking up the active practice of law, which he followed at Oberlin, Kans., until 1890, when he drove overland to Lewistown, Mont. Here he opened a law office and established a newspaper, the Montana Democrat, later the Lewistown Democrat; also finding time to engage in mining.

In January, 1907, Mr. Scott removed to Goldfield, Nev., where he opened an office for the practice of his profession, also becoming interested in mining property, and purchasing a twenty-eight-acre claim, but owing to the financial panic of 1907 he did not develop his mine. In December, 1909, he located at Kerman, Fresno County, where he purchased a forty-acre ranch of raw land, in the Empire Colony, located on Thompson Avenue, between Belmont and McKinley. He leveled and improved the land, planted alfalfa, built a residence, and engaged in the dairy business, continuing until August, 1916, when he rented his ranch and located on Madera Avenue.

Having a desire to reenter professional life, Mr. Scott became a candidate for the office of justice of the peace, for the Eleventh Township, Fresno County, at the primary election held August, 1914, receiving the nomination over three opponents and later was duly elected for a term of four years, taking the oath of office in January, 1915, serving till January, 1919.

On December 7, 1895, in the state of Montana, Mr. Scott was united in marriage with Miss Clara M. McKoin, a native of Helena, Mont., and a graduate of the Helena High School. Her parents were pioneers of Oregon and Montana, being engaged in ranching and stock-raising. This union has been blessed with two children: Rena, a graduate of Kerman High School; and Doris, who graduated from Fresno High School.

Fraternally, Judge Scott is a member of Judith Lodge, No. 30, Knights of Pythias, at Lewistown, Mont., and in political matters supports the Democratic ticket. Judge Scott has won a host of friends by his just decisions, is a highly esteemed and progressive citizen and always gives his aid to the advancement of all movements for the betterment of the community.

ROBERT E. CARPENTER.—A man who has become posted in engineering and mechanics, is Robert E. Carpenter, whose wife is the representative of an old pioneer family of California. He was really christened Robert Edward, and was born in Brownell, Ness County, Kans., on April 5, 1888, the son of Reuben T. Carpenter, a native of Iowa. The father came to Kansas when a young man, and homesteaded in Ness County, where he was one of the early settlers. He followed farming and stock-raising there, and in time became a successful man. In December, 1918, he retired to Great Bend, Kans., where he now resides. Mrs. Carpenter was Clara Van Winkle before her marriage, and her grandfather crossed the plains in early days to California, but returned East again. She died when Robert, who was the oldest of three children, was about six years of age. He has a brother, E. V. Carpenter, an electrician for the Standard Oil Company of California.

Robert's childhood was passed on his father's farm until he was sixteen years of age, during which time he received the foundation for a good education in the public schools of Kansas. Then he followed clerking in a store, and later was employed in the pumping department of the Missouri Pacific Railroad. From there he went to Denver, Colo., and while there he enlisted in the United States Navy and in January, 1908, came west to Goat Island in San Francisco Bay, where he remained until October, 1908. Then he sailed on the cruiser California—the same vessel that was afterward called San Diego and which last year went down off New York City. Thus serving his country, Mr. Carpenter remained abroad for three years and two months, during which time he became oiler. The cruise was very educational, for he visited various important ports of Japan, the Philippines, New Guinea, and South America.

In December, 1911, Mr. Carpenter received his honorable discharge at San Francisco, and he liked the coast so well that he concluded to remain in California. In January, 1912, he came to Bakersfield and the following June entered the employ of the Standard Oil Company. His first position was in the pipe-line department, and he was assigned immediately to the Mendota Pumping Station, where he rose gradually to be an engineer. Having ac-

quired a special knowledge of work with asbestos, he has given the company satisfaction by doing all that was required in that field, and in the same expert manner as engineers aboard ship are accustomed to do.

At Fresno, on August 15, 1912, Mr. Carpenter was married to Miss Wealthy Caruthers, a native of Caruthers, Fresno County, and the daughter of William A., the famous founder of the town called after him. He was a doughty soldier in the Civil War and he and his wife both died at Caruthers. They had four children, two of whom are living, one being in the United States Navy. The youngest in the family, Mrs. Carpenter, was educated in the public and high schools at Hanford. They have one child, a bright daughter named Elsie Lucile.

A Democrat in national politics, Mr. Carpenter is ever ready to help good local movements, irrespective of party. He is a member of the Eagles, and is affiliated with the lodge at Fresno.

JACOB P. CHRISTIAN.—A progressive and able man, one who would make a place for himself in any country, Jacob P. Christian has weathered both prosperity and adversity in the confines of Fresno County, and is now building his fortunes anew from the fertile soil of this section. He is a native of Russia, born March 17, 1872, in Dinkel, on the Volga River, Samara, a son of Phillip and Katie (Reinhardt) Christian, both of that country, and there the father died, January 28, 1918; the mother is still living on the home farm. They were the parents of nine children, two girls and seven boys, of whom Jacob P. is the oldest of three brothers now living in America, the others being Henry, of Fresno, and Carl, of Kutner Colony.

He was brought up on the home farm, and received his education in the public schools of his native country and also in a special advanced school. He remained at home until twenty-one, when he entered the Russian Army, in 1894, in a cavalry regiment, entering training school in Poland; in his examinations he stood second highest out of forty-eight, received second prize and was commissioned second lieutenant, advanced to first lieutenant, and also made maps of maneuvers. He served five years, and received prizes for horse-breaking and for shooting. Before he obtained his honorable discharge, Mr. Christian had some difficulty with the military authorities because of his expose of the misappropriation of supplies by General Tomashefski, who sold them and put the money in his own pocket. Instead of being protected for his honesty, the military powers shielded the general. The result was that Mr. Christian made an appeal to the German Emperor, under whose flag his forefathers had been reared, and through his influence he was given a full release as a citizen of Russia and his discharge granted. While this was being consummated he was a resident of Germany for seven months, during which time he decided he would seek a new field for his talents.

In December, 1898, therefore, Mr. Christian arrived in Fresno; he spoke German-Russian and Polish, and soon acquired a good knowledge of English. He engaged in ranching near Fresno, buying a 120-acre ranch from Balfour-Guthrie Company, for \$72 an acre; of this property he sold 100 acres to friends for \$80 per acre, and improved the balance to vineyard and orchard, and later sold it. He then engaged in grain-farming, leasing 640 acres of the old Hyde ranch and 320 acres of the A. S. Kellogg ranch, part of which was in alfalfa, and a dairy was also maintained on the ranch. Later, on account of his wife's health, Mr. Christian sold out and located in Fresno, where he bought a grocery store on Elm and California Avenues, which he operated for sixteen months as the Elm Avenue Grocery Company; at the end of that period he sold out and engaged in real estate under the firm name of the South Realty Company, and also became a notary public. He continued in the realty business for about five years, and then bought back the grocery, continuing under the old name from July, 1915, to May 14, 1916, when he was burned out and lost all he had made in years. Nothing daunted,

however, he again began ranching, purchasing twenty acres on Floyd Avenue which he devoted to Thompson seedless grapes. He still is authorized to do notary public work and conveyancing.

The marriage of Mr. Christian on July 24, 1899, in Fresno, united him with Miss Katie Klamm, born in Russia, and a daughter of Jacob Klamm, now living retired in Fresno; she was brought to Fresno when thirteen years of age, by her parents. To Mr. and Mrs. Christian seven children have been born: Lizzie; Mollie; Alex; Henry; Fred; Emelia; and Lydia. They attend the Free Evangelical Lutheran Church, and Mr. Christian is secretary of the Brotherhood of German Churches in Fresno County and Dinuba, and during the drives collected funds for the Red Cross, of which he is a life member, and he was active in other patriotic work during the war. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and of the California Peach Growers, Inc. Progress and advancement have been his watchwords, and, always a student, he is now putting in his spare time in the study of law. Mr. Christian organized and started what is now the California Post, published in Fresno, and was its president and director for several years, when he resigned for lack of time to give to the publication. He is well read and of keen vision, and has been an active, loyal Republican.

CHARLES HENRY CLIFFORD.—An efficient and popular official who has amply demonstrated the possibility of not only conducting a public trust to the satisfaction of the people, but of making a commercial success of California husbandry, is Charles Henry Clifford, the constable for whom his neighbors always have a good word, and for whose work as a viticulturist fellow ranchmen are full of admiration. He was born in Queen City, Mo., September 13, 1864, and attended the local schools at the same time that he was reared on a farm. In 1883, he went to Warren, Mo., then to Lucas County, Iowa, and in 1885 he went back to Missouri. In February of the following year he took his team to Nebraska, and there he farmed in Lexington, Dawson County, in 1887 going on to Fort Robinson. He then returned to Lexington in 1888, and the next year he bought a ranch of eighty acres in that section and improved it, so that it had a good market value.

Attracted by the alluring accounts of opportunities in Central California, Mr. Clifford, in 1894, came to Fresno County with his sisters and, having secured a tract of forty acres, located here. Of this area he owns twenty acres and his sisters own the other twenty. He has improved his ranch by planting it to muscat and malaga vines, having five acres of the latter; he has erected the necessary buildings and thus equipped himself for active membership in the California Associated Raisin Company, with which he is proud to be affiliated.

At Lexington, Nebr., in 1888, Mr. Clifford was married to Miss Sarah C. Oldham, who was born in Mount Pleasant, Utah, and grew up to be a teacher in Nebraska. Three children have come to brighten the Clifford home: Lulu, a graduate of the Fresno State Normal, and a teacher in one of the Fresno schools; Luther, who served his country in the World War until honorably discharged, and who now has charge of his father's ranch; and Hazel, who is also a graduate of Fresno State Normal, now principal of the Wolter's School. It will thus be seen that the trend of the family is toward education and, in fact, Mr. Clifford has given no less than six years of service as school trustee in the Jefferson district.

Mr. Clifford has also served his fellow citizens in still another field of the public service. In 1898 he was elected a constable of the second judicial township of Fresno County, and took the oath of office on January 7, 1899. He was reelected in 1902, 1906, 1910, 1914 and in 1918, and has thus served in this responsible position, requiring so much good judgment and fidelity, for the past twenty years. He has proven one of the best constables Fresno County ever had, and his face and figure, identified in the beginning with horseback



C. H. Clifford

locomotion and later the more comfortable transportation by team, and now by auto, have long been familiar to thousands. In national politics, Constable Clifford is a Democrat, in former days being a delegate to county conventions from his district, but in local affairs he applies in particular the virtues of the Golden Rule and supports the best proposition and the cleanest candidates. He is an Odd Fellow, and belongs to the Clovis Lodge.

WILLIAM S. LOCKIE.—An industrious and progressive raisin grower who resides four miles north of Fowler on his well-improved ranch, is W. S. Lockie, popularly called Will Lockie, the influential and far-sighted representative of a notable Central California family sketched at greater length in the interesting outline of his father's life given elsewhere in this work. He helped to organize and is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Fowler; and all who know him look upon him as a man of the strictest integrity.

Will Lockie is the fourth child of the late W. A. Lockie, widely known in his time and highly respected as a prosperous pioneer rancher, and was born in Solano County, Cal., May 7, 1874. He was a boy when the family moved to Oregon, and was twelve years old when they migrated to Weatherford, Parker County, Texas, where they stayed for about seven and a half years. They then came back to California and settled in the De Wolf school district, and the son helped to plant the W. A. Lockie place of 180 acres, as he also planted his own sixty acres, to trees and vines, now bearing fully. Other improvements also were made, including a good residence, barns, etc.

At the age of twenty-nine, Mr. Lockie was married in Fowler to Miss Effie Bradley, who died in 1912, leaving two children—Margaret, who is in the high school at Fowler, and Keith, who is attending the grammar school. Mr. Lockie was married a second time, in 1914, to Mrs. Alice (Donahue) Whittican, who was born in Nevada. She had one child by her first union, Bonnie Whittican, now attending school in the state of Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Lockie took an active interest in such commendable work as that of the Liberty Loan drives, Red Cross and other war activities during the World War. They belong to the Christian Church at Fowler. Mr. Lockie is a Republican in matters of national political import, but is one of the first to support heartily, without partisanship, any good movement for local uplift. He believes that just as the citizen gives close and intelligent attention to local problems, so will the nation as a whole be soundly organized and developed.

JOHN LEE SCOGGINS.—A successful viticulturist who, after extensive investigation, finds the soil and climate in Empire most suitable to raisin-growing, and also a native son who is greatly interested in California history, is J. L. Scoggins, who was born in Colusa, Cal., on October 6, 1866. His father, A. J. Scoggins, was born in Alabama, and when two years old was taken by his parents to Tennessee where he was reared. Grandfather Scoggins had an honorable part as a soldier in the Mexican War, and A. J., who inherited the same intrepid spirit, crossed the great plains in 1853 to California and settled in Yolo County, where he was a farmer. His first wife died there, and in 1856 he returned east and in Tennessee married Rebecca Ann Cleeke, a native of that state. With his wife, Mr. Scoggins, in 1857, started to cross the plains, but having stopped to winter in Arkansas he did not reach California until the following year. He made his way again to Yolo County, and soon bought a farm near Colusa, in Colusa County, and there became a large landowner, widely known as a grain-farmer and stockman. In 1875 he removed to Sonoma County, but after a year took up his residence, in January, 1877, in Tulare, now Kings County, where he engaged in farming. He bought railroad lands and improved them, but in the fall of 1883 he removed to Texas. Four years later he returned to California and busied himself as a viticulturist at Dinuba, in Tulare County, and there he died. A daughter by the first marriage died in Tulare, and Mrs. Scoggins

also passed away there, the mother of four boys and three girls, all of whom are now living save one son.

The fifth eldest in the family, J. L. Scoggins, was brought up in Tulare and Kings Counties and there attended the public schools, meanwhile learning grain-farming. He continued home until he was eighteen, when he went to work on a ranch in the employ of Ed. Giddings. During a service of ten years he was made foreman, and then he engaged with A. W. Clark of Messrs. Clark & Kennedy, the grain-farmers and stockmen of Dinuba. He was with them eighteen years, and became superintendent of their stock-raising.

During this time Mr. Scoggins improved a forty-acre vineyard at Dinuba, which he set out to Thompson seedless and muscat grapes; and five years ago he quit the service of Clark & Kennedy to manage his own place. In 1916 he sold his holding and bought his present ranch on Thompson Avenue, Fresno County. This was a tract of forty acres in the California Bank section, and only fourteen acres were set out with Thompson grapes; and in 1917 he set out sixteen acres more. He provided irrigation from the ditch, sunk a well and put in a pumping-plant, and since then he has been improving his property in many ways, until it is now one of the finest ranches of its size in the locality.

On Washington's Birthday, 1917, Mr. Scoggins was married at Fresno to Mrs. Emily K. (McKinsey) Liggett, a native of Columbus, Kans., and the daughter of Samuel McKinsey. He was born in Indiana, and during the Civil War served in an Indiana regiment known as Wilder's Scouts. He moved to Columbus, Kans., became a farmer and died in Kansas. He had married Anna Rash, a native of Indiana; and she came to Fresno in 1900 and resided here until she died, twelve years later. She was the mother of three children, and among these Mrs. Scoggins was the second oldest. Her first marriage occurred in San Francisco, when she became the wife of Harry Liggett, who represented the New York Life Insurance Company, and who died in Nevada in 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Scoggins attend the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are greatly interested in all good works that make for the uplift of the community, and he is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

FINNEY MILLER HART.—An hospitable old gentleman who was one of the first settlers in the Dakota Colony and has certainly "improved his talent," to use Scriptural phraseology, for he has improved the land he acquired and made of it a nice farm, is Finney Miller Hart, who came to the Kerman district in the fall of 1909. He was born in Camden, Preble County, Ohio, on March 20, 1847, the son of Silas Hart, also a native of Ohio, who was a farmer there. Silas Hart became an Argonaut, for he came to California as a sailor in 1849, sailing around Cape Horn, and he was seeking his fortune in the mines for six years. His oldest son John joined him two or three years later, and afterward removed to Washington, where he died. Silas Hart returned to Ohio, where he passed away. His wife was Hannah Slinger, a native of Ohio, and she died in the Buckeye State. She was the mother of seven boys and two girls; and four boys are now living.

The second youngest of these, F. M., was brought up in Ohio and there attended the public schools. From a boy he learned farming, but when he was eighteen he enlisted in the United States Army and served until after the war. On attaining his twenty-second year, he came to Missouri and farmed for a year in Daviess County, and then he went to Marion, Linn County, Iowa, where he bought a farm. This he improved and operated, and then he removed to Cherokee County, Kans., where he bought 200 acres. He also came to own another strip of 127 acres, and still another block of forty acres. He raised corn and hogs, added to the region's wealth, and gained both prosperity and experience for himself.

Having spent three winters in Los Angeles, he liked California so well that he decided to settle here, so in 1909 he sold out and came to Fresno County. He bought in the Dakota Colony some sixty acres of land covered with weeds, but by hard work he leveled and checked it for alfalfa and set out a peach and an apricot orchard. He also established a high-grade dairy. Of late he has been setting out a small Thompson seedless vineyard. These valuable improvements have greatly added to the attraction, not only of the property owned by Mr. Hart, but of the neighborhood in general. On January 31, 1919, he sold off thirty acres on the west end, but still retains thirty acres.

In Linn County, Iowa, Mr. Hart and Miss Celia Wright were married and began what promised to be the happiest of mated lives. She was a native of that section, but she died there. Her blessed heritage was four children: Charles, who died in Denver; Rosalinda, who is Mrs. Penn and resides in Eastern Colorado; Clarence, a rancher in this district; and Walter, also a rancher here.

Mr. Hart belongs to the California Peach Growers, Inc., and vigorously supports its cooperative work; and in civic duties he follows the great principles for which the Democratic party stands.

FRED O. GARDINER.—Among the educators of the state few names are more prominently associated with the advancement of business education in the San Joaquin Valley and the state of California than that of Fred O. Gardiner, owner and proprietor of Heald's Business College of Fresno. Mr. Gardiner was born in Dallas County, Iowa, January 25, 1872, a son of J. O. and Emily (Tovey) Gardiner. The father was of Scotch-Irish and the mother was of English descent. They were honest and industrious farmer folk, always doing the best they could to better the conditions in their locality.

Fred O. passed the early days of his boyhood on the home farm, but as he has no natural inclination to follow agricultural lines, little of his effort was spent in the performance of home duties. His one thought was to prepare himself for the world of business, and having learned telegraphy when a lad of ten or twelve years of age, he filled a position as operator on the Rock Island route in Iowa. It was during this time that he recognized his exceptional ability as a penman, a recognition which may be taken as the turning point in his business career, for it took him from commercial life and placed him in the educational field. His school advantages had been only what he could obtain in the country school in the vicinity of his birthplace. In order to perfect himself in the art of penmanship he took a special course in Highland Park College at Des Moines, Iowa, this was followed by a general course in Lincoln Normal University at Lincoln, Nebr., from which he was graduated in 1894 with the degree of Master of Accounts.

The following year Mr. Gardiner came to California and soon afterwards began his educational career as an associate with Heald-Dixon Business College of Oakland and San Francisco, in which he had a financial interest for two years. Selling out his interest in 1896, Mr. Gardiner went to Stockton where he accepted a position as a teacher in the commercial department of the Stockton Business College, which he filled with great credit to himself and much benefit to the college and students. He held this position for eight years, when he purchased the entire control of the institution in 1904. Two years later, in 1906, he sold out his interest to Mr. Heald and then became resident manager of the college. In 1905 he became half owner of the Dixon Business College at Stockton. He was one of the founders of the Heald chain of colleges in 1906, and was secretary of the chain, with his offices in San Francisco, giving it his entire time till 1915, when he sold his interests and came to Fresno in 1915 as owner of Heald's Business College at Fresno, which institution he has had much to do from its origin, building it up to its present high standard among the business colleges of the state.

Heald's Fresno College was established in 1894. In 1906, Mr. Gardiner, as representative of Heald's chain of business colleges, bought it and another college here and consolidated them as Heald's Fresno College. It is now the largest commercial college in Interior California, and the second largest in the state, numbering thousands of graduates in its alumni, many of whom are now successfully engaged in business in the Valley. It has a daily attendance of 300 and specializes in bookkeeping, shorthand and office training.

Mr. Gardiner is interested in horticulture, specializing in growing Smyrna figs. He is the owner of a 100-acre fig orchard located in a cove above Clovis. He is very enthusiastic for the future success of the fig industry in Fresno County, as well as for the county's prosperity in all lines, and has determined to set his stake here and make it his permanent home and the scene of his future operations.

The marriage of Fred O. Gardiner and Miss Josephine Mylotte took place on December 25, 1898. Mrs. Gardiner is a daughter of Judge J. A. Mylotte of San Francisco, where she was born. Three children blessed this happy marriage: Ione, Jean, and Frances. Mr. Gardiner was bereft of his wife in January, 1918. Fraternally, Professor Gardiner is a member of the Masons, the Odd Fellows, and the Woodmen of the World. He belongs to the Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants Association. Mr. Gardiner's gift as an expert penman has given him a national reputation. He is prominent in the profession and well known throughout the United States as a teacher of bookkeeping and penmanship. Professor Gardiner has a pleasing personality and has always been popular with his pupils, a bond which has been a large factor in his success as an instructor.

HENRY F. MARTIN.—An enterprising Californian, who has been a factor in the development of Fresno for the past thirty-two years, is Henry F. Martin, the pioneer house-mover of Fresno County, and one of the best known men in his line in the state. He was born in Dekalb County, Ga., January 24, 1860, and when a lad of ten he was taken to Eastern Texas, where he remained five years. He then moved into the western part, and busied himself in farming and stock-raising. He was known as a far-seeing, hard-working man, and his success, therefore, is not surprising.

During the boom year of 1887, Mr. Martin arrived in Fresno, where he was first employed in grading Tulare Street from H to Van Ness Avenue. After that he was employed by the Fresno Water Company, and then for the Owens House-Moving Company. At the end of six months he rented their equipment and ran it for two years. Then he bought the outfit and has ever since been in the house-moving and reconstruction work in Fresno and the San Joaquin Valley.

House-moving has passed through three periods: First, the old windlass turned by horse-power, the house moving on wooden rollers—a tedious process. Later, trucks were put under the house and ten to thirty horses were used to pull it along. Finally, the present method is by the tractor caterpillar engine. Mr. Martin has successively used these three equipments in Fresno County and elsewhere in the San Joaquin Valley, operating from Merced to Bakersfield.

One of his "big jobs" was the moving of the St. Mary's Sisters' Hospital in Bakersfield, a three-story building requiring unusual caution and equipment. In Monterey he removed all the old buildings before the main street was graded. His present equipment includes a seventy-five horse-power Holt caterpillar tractor of the latest design. In early days ropes were used but now only steel cables are employed. In October, 1916, he raised the concrete county bridge of two thousand tons across Kings River, east of Sanger. This had settled, and needed to be jacked up and permanently braced. There is hardly a street in Fresno on which he has not moved a house. He also cleared



J. A. Peterson



LaVimie Peterson

houses from the sites of many of the large buildings, among which are the old Hawthorne School, the Fresno Post Office, the Union Savings Bank Building, the Parker-Lyon Building, the Patterson Building, the National Bank Building, the Farmers Bank Building, the Fresno High School, and the Santa Fe Depot.

At one time Mr. Martin owned, improved and managed a ranch of eighty acres west of Fresno, where he had an orchard and also planted alfalfa. He has acquired valuable real estate in Fresno and owns a block of houses on Thesta and Valeria Streets, besides other valuable property. The two-story house in which he lives at 201 Thesta Street has quite an interesting history. He bought a ranch house, cut it into two parts and moved them six miles to Fresno. There he jacked it up and built an additional story underneath. He has made a speciality of reconstructing houses, and has become an expert in that line.

While in Weatherford, Texas, Mr. Martin was married on September 7, 1882, to Sarah Freeman of Murray County, Ga., by whom he had five children: Barney A., superintending the house-moving department of the business for the past ten years; William A., a druggist at Madera; Oscar A., with the San Joaquin Light and Power Corporation, at Fresno; Harriett N., of Oakland; and Linnie, wife of C. R. Russell of Fresno.

Mr. Martin belongs to the Odd Fellows, the Woodmen of the World, the Stags, the American Yeoman and the Fraternal Brotherhood. He has always shown a live interest in civic affairs, and was a member of the City Council for four years under Mayor Rowell's administration, representing the Fifth Ward.

JOSEPH A. T. PETERSON.—A Wisconsin boy with unusually interesting historic connections through marriage, who has made good in Fresno County where, for the past seventeen years, he has devoted his whole time to the boring of wells, is Joseph A. T. Peterson, who first came to Selma in the great boom year of 1887. His father, John P. Peterson, was born in Sweden, and so was his mother, who was Mary Charlotte Carlson before her marriage. Five children were born to this worthy couple: Joseph, of this sketch, and his brother Charles J. A., with their parents, constituted the family which came from Sweden to the United States in 1866. Two girls were born and died in Sweden, and Samuel G. was born in Wisconsin. Three sons, therefore, grew up and all are living. Charles J. A. Peterson is in Selma, and Samuel G., another well-borer, lives at Fowler. Charles was the first of the family to come to California, leaving Nebraska, where he was going to school, early in the spring of 1886.

Born in Stockholm, Sweden, on November 14, 1864, Joseph was a baby in his mother's arms when he came to America. He obtained most of his schooling in Door County, Wis. He came to Selma, on June 15, 1887, or four months before his parents, and went to work on a farm. Soon after, he engaged with D. B. Stephens, the famous well-borer at Selma, from whom he learned that intricate and difficult business, and he bought out Stephens' rig after the latter was accidentally killed in a train accident at Selma in 1892. He followed the well-boring business exclusively for nearly twenty years, and in 1900 bought his first ranch. Since then he has bought, sold and improved several pieces of valuable property.

Although so well-known as a borer of wells, Mr. Peterson has given most of his time to ranching for the past eighteen years, and he now owns two ranches two miles south of Selma, on the South McCall Road, which he leases. One of these is the old Dr. McClelland ranch of 120 acres, an old landmark and show-place, with the first large vineyard planted south of the town, and this grand old site will provide the future home of the family. He has another twenty-acre vineyard and alfalfa ranch just across the road.

In 1910, Mr. Peterson sold his well-boring rig to his brother Samuel at Fowler.

The following year, on November 8, 1911, he was married to Miss La Vinnie Boone, a lineal descendant of the immortal Daniel Boone of Kentucky. She was born and reared in Missouri, and at Kirksville in that state attended the Normal School. Her father, Joseph Boone, was born in Ohio, but died near Kirksville, where he owned a farm twenty years ago; her mother, whose maiden name was Phoebe Miller, was a native of Indianapolis, Ind., and is still living at Kirksville. Of a family of twelve children, nine girls and three boys, Mrs. Peterson was the ninth child. Her choosing California was a bit romantic. She had come here on a visit to a sister, and while here had met and responded to the overtures of Mr. Peterson.

Mr. Peterson is ever ready to lend support to any movement making for the uplift of the community. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and was connected with the former organizations. He is a man of superior foresight and judgment, and so proves valuable as a counsellor. Personally, he is of that cordial and sympathetic temperament which is sure at all times to attract the stranger and to hold the friend. He is just the kind of timber of which great commonwealths must be built, and of which Central California is proud. He saw the first raisins that were stemmed in Fresno, done by horsepower; also the first vineyards of any size to be set out; and he has witnessed the transformation of sand hills, grain-fields and hog-wallows into the most productive of ranches.

FRED P. ROULLARD.—From a horticultural as well as an agricultural standpoint, perhaps no county in the State of California stands higher than that of Fresno, whose citizenship not only comprises native sons but claims a large quota from many other states, who have brought with them, for the benefit of the Pacific commonwealth, more or less of the combined scientific and technical experience and attainment of the nation. Prominent among such Californians by adoption must be mentioned Fred P. Roullard, the well-known and justly popular County Commissioner of Horticulture, who was born at Eaton, Colo., on November 25, 1884. His father was Joel Roullard, a successful rancher of Fresno County, who came to California in 1909 and settled on a ranch near Clovis, where he still lives. His wife was Elizabeth Lyman before her marriage.

Fred attended the common and high schools of Colorado, and later the Agricultural College at Fort Collins, in the same state, and then studied at the State University of Idaho, where he specialized in chemistry, plant biology and entomology, at the same time becoming active in the Beta Theta Pi fraternity. His thoroughness and accuracy in those sciences soon secured him a lucrative position with the Utah-Idaho Sugar Company, where he remained for two years as chemist, when he resigned to avail himself of a more advantageous position as chemist with the Great Western Sugar Company, located at Eaton, Colo. He remained with that company until 1909 when he again resigned, this time to follow his father to Fresno County and to settle here.

He engaged in viticulture and agriculture with his father near Clovis, and during this time conducted lectures and laboratory work at the grammar school in horticulture, entomology and general agriculture. He also took the examination before the State Board of Horticulture Commissioners, and among all the applicants in that competition, received the highest honors.

On September 8, 1914, Mr. Roullard was appointed by the board of supervisors commissioner of horticulture for Fresno County; and to such an extent has his preparedness in different lines of general agriculture and horticulture, soil chemistry and plant history enabled him to carry on the affairs of his office with signal ability and to the entire satisfaction of everybody, that each time since then he has been reappointed to succeed himself.

Mr. Roullard was also appointed by the directors of the Fresno County Fair Association supervisor of agricultural and horticultural products for their district fair, a position to which he has given much time the last three years, bringing into play his long study and experience in that line, and so raising the standard of the Department each year that he has received favorable comment not only from the Association, but from the public in general. To show how eminently satisfactory has been his research in the line of his profession, it is only necessary to state that in 1917 Mr. Roullard was induced by the Fresno Republican to accept the editorship of their Agricultural Department, a feature he put new life into with the zeal characteristic of his other undertakings.

Mr. Roullard has also been a liberal contributor of articles suggested by his professional work to other journals and magazines, and he has rendered valuable service in inducing the County Board of Education to cooperate with him in localizing agriculture and teaching the rudiments in the schools. He is the author of illustrated lectures and has outlined a course for schools in agriculture especially referring to insects, plant diseases and animal pests and their control. This is now outlined in a supplement to the manual of public schools for Fresno County, and was adopted by the Board of Education in June, 1918. He is also the author of "Insect Pests and Diseases of Interest to the Horticulturists of Fresno County," which is well illustrated.

Mr. Roullard has a most complete laboratory for the carrying out of his work of investigation in microscopy, as well as the analysing and testing of fruits, and a very complete cabinet of specimens in entomology. This scientific status, combined with a winning personality making him approachable and valuable for leadership and cooperation have been recognized, and as an active member of the State Association of County Horticultural Commissioners, he is serving as Vice-President.

At Clovis, on July 21, 1915, Mr. Roullard was married to Miss Ruth Naden, a native of Nebraska who was reared in Fresno County; and he and his able helpmate reside at their cosy home at 1240 North Van Ness Avenue, Fresno, where a generous and typically Californian hospitality is dispensed.

Mr. Roullard is an energetic and influential member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce, well-known and highly esteemed both within and without that wide-awake and powerful body.

Commissioner Roullard gives evidence of the faith that is in him concerning the future and the bright prospects of Fresno County by having purchased and improved an orchard of twenty acres near Clovis, which he has planted to figs and made a neat and instructive "show place" to all interested in fig-culture.

R. L. PRICE.—Three-fourths of a mile north from Sanger, nestling amid flowers and shrubbery, with a background of orange trees to enhance the beauty of the scene, the whole presenting a picture long and delightfully to be remembered, stands a bungalow surrounded by a fine group of ranch buildings, each designed for a particular purpose, and each so well equipped that it fulfils its purpose admirably. Around this home are twenty-seven acres of highly-productive land, devoted principally to fruit. Ten of the twenty-seven acres are disconnected from the tract on which the dwelling stands. In this charming home, surrounded by the comforts and many of the luxuries of life, dwell Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Price who, by industry, thrift and economy, have built up for themselves a reputation that far excels in value houses or lands.

R. L. Price was born in Kentucky, in 1857, and is the son of George W. and Kate (Felts) Price, who had four children, two of whom found their way to California, the subject of this review and his brother, Joel F. R. L. was reared in Kentucky, completed high school in Texas in 1905, in which state he grew up until he came to the Golden State.

When he purchased his California land, it was only wheat field, and he paid just fifty-five dollars an acre for it. That same year, however, the land advanced in price, and some ranches near sold at from sixty to sixty-five dollars an acre. His acreage was quite unimproved; so that its higher productive capacity was due largely to the clearing and cultivating that he himself, with the sweat of his brow, gave it. He at once settled on his little ranch, and set to work resolutely to build for himself a home worthy of the future; for he had confidence that a few years would produce great changes for the better in Central California.

In 1888, at the height of the boom in land, he married his helpmate and inspiration in the great pioneering before him, Miss Anna Browning, daughter of Underwood Browning, who became the mother of two children. Lawrence L. and George U. Lawrence enlisted in November, 1917, for the great world war, serving in France in the United States Aviation Section. He was honorably discharged in March, 1919.

Mr. Price is a member of the Presbyterian Church and both himself and family are active therein and are highly esteemed in the community. He is also a member of the Red Men at Sanger. Mrs. Price is prominent in the Red Cross, Dorcas and Missionary Society.

JAMES FRANKLIN LOCKIE.—Another worthy representative of the Lockie family, honorably identified with the pioneer development of Central California, is James Franklin Lockie (usually called Frank Lockie) the youngest son of the late W. A. Lockie, whose life story appears elsewhere in this work. He owns forty choice acres, and is today one of the prosperous ranchers in this section, all the result of the industry and thrift exercised in the eighteen years since he purchased his estate.

He was born in Lake County, Ore., on September 21, 1872, and he was ten years old when he went with his parents to Texas. There, near Weatherford, beginning as a boy and continuing seven years, he assisted his father at farming, and then he returned to California, in 1889, and settled here, still helping his father. He thus had a part in developing the great Lockie ranch where he early contributed something definite toward advancing California husbandry and in so doing added much to his own experience.

On October 20, 1901, Mr. Lockie was married at Fowler to Miss Lula Lillian Hearte, a woman of exalted Christian character, who was born at Weatherford and attended the public schools of Texas, and California; for she came to the Golden State as a girl of twelve years. She also became the youngest charter member of the Fowler Baptist Church, while her mother, Mrs. Lydia Hearte, now deceased, was the oldest charter member. Her father was William Melbourne Hearte, a native of Pennsylvania who came to Texas and married there. He engaged in general merchandizing at Weatherford, and died aged about seventy. He was twice married, and by his first wife had seven children who were all grown and married before he married a second time. Mrs. Lockie's mother, who was Mrs. Hearte's second wife, was born in Texas and belonged to the first generation of Texas girls; she also was married twice. Her first husband was a Mr. Nash, and their one child died in infancy. By Mr. Hearte she had four children: Mary, who is the wife of T. S. Lockie, the rancher at Winton; and Lula Lillian, who is Mrs. J. F. Lockie. The other two children died in infancy. Mrs. Lockie passed the first twelve years of her life in Texas, and then came north with her mother to Fowler. Her sister, Mary Ella, was the first of the family to come out here, having met and married T. S. Lockie in Texas. But Mr. Lockie had remained in Texas and farmed for several years after his father, W. A. Lockie, and the rest of the family had returned to California.

As bride and groom, Mr. and Mrs. Lockie came here right after their marriage and made their first purchase of twenty acres, upon which he built his residence and home. The second twenty acres they bought in 1906. By hard, intelligent work Mr. Lockie has added the necessary barns and other



Erik. Adolfsen Mrs. J. Adolfsen

outbuildings and has planted to trees and vines; and their union has been blessed with the birth of four children: Clarence Franklin, a freshman in the Fowler high school; Elsie May, attending the grammar school; and William Melbourne and Edith Lucile. They are members of the Baptist Church in Fowler, of which Mr. Lockie is a trustee, while Mrs. Lockie is a teacher in the Sunday School. He is a Republican, of the broad and thoroughly patriotic sort; he loyally supported the administration of President Wilson, and both he and his good wife were patrons of the Red Cross and participants in other war work.

Mrs. Lydia A. Hearte, Mrs. Lockie's mother, passed away at the Lockie home on April 23, 1918, aged seventy-nine, having celebrated her last birthday only on the fifteenth of the preceding month. She was an honorary member of the Missionary Society of the Baptist Church at Fowler, and was a woman of exemplary Christian character. By unanimous vote, the members of that church resolved to observe Saturday, March 15, 1919, the anniversary of her birth, in commemorating her life, and on that sacred occasion they met together and decorated her grave with flowers, thus bearing testimony to their love for her and their esteem for her noble character.

Mrs. Lockie is recognized as a woman of the same Christian attributes. As the baby of the family, she was never separated from her mother, during all the long life of the latter, for more than seven and a half months. Thus her recollections of the departed are delightful and inspiring.

ERIK ADOLFSON.—There must be an affinity between the Swedish and Fresno County, for all who have located here have given a good account of themselves, and one of the notable examples is Erik Adolfson. He was born in Narke, Oerebrolan, Sweden, September 11, 1857. His father, Adolf Anderson, was a farmer in his native country, and came to America, in 1883, with his family and settled in Red River Valley, Minn., where he improved a farm, and still resides, now over ninety years of age. His mother, who was Maria Johnson, was also born in Sweden and is yet living, at the age of over ninety-two years. There were eight children in the family, seven of whom are living, and Erik is the second oldest.

Erik Adolfson remained in Sweden until he was twenty years old, was educated in the public schools and in the meantime learned farming. In 1877 he came to join a sister who had come to America in 1876, and located in Ishpeming, Mich., a great iron-mining community. Here he was employed in the iron mines for five years, and became a contractor to get out ore. In 1881 he went to Minnesota and located a homestead in Red Lake County, and the next year moved on it, improved it, proved up on it, and made it his home for twenty-six years, where he was engaged in grain and stock-raising.

In 1904, Mr. Adolfson made a trip to California, bought seventy acres in Vinland Colony, and two years later located on it. He built a residence and began to improve his place and takes great pride in the fact that he has planted all the vines and trees that now adorn his home place. He first set out an orchard, planted a vineyard and sowed alfalfa. He now has seven acres in Thompson seedless, an orchard of twenty acres of peaches and apricots, and the balance in pasture and alfalfa. When he first settled on this place it was a grain field, but he plowed, checked and leveled it himself, and has seen the development into a very valuable piece of property, a satisfaction that only those can appreciate who, like him, love to produce from the soil. He has a small dairy and it, like everything else on his place, is up-to-date. When the Skaggs bridge was built across the San Joaquin River, Mr. Adolfson helped to build it, working as a foreman from the start until it was completed. He also furnished the gravel for the bridge. About the time the bridge was commenced he sold his farm in Minnesota, thereby severing all ties with that state.

Mr. Adolfson was married in Michigan to Miss Johanna Soderman, also a native of Sweden. They have eight children: Hada Alida, now Mrs. Jerry Long, of Kerman; Ellen Thyresa, at home; August Selim, an assistant of his father; Martin, who served in Battery B, Sixty-second Division, Heavy Artillery, as a musician, sixteen months, part of the time overseas; Edith; Henning and Levinus, both farmers in the home vicinity; and Titus, in Kerman High.

While in Minnesota, Mr. Adolfson was a school trustee and clerk of the board, and he is now a member of the Union High School Board at Kerman. He is a member of the Lutheran Church in Vinland, is a trustee and chairman of the board, and he helped to organize the church. He has a musical temperament and plays both the organ and piano. In Minnesota he was the church organist, and for ten years has occupied that position in the local church. His children inherit his musical taste and lend their aid in song in their community. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, a stockholder in the Kerman Creamery, and helped in the initial steps of the Kerman Telephone Company. Mr. Adolfson is a valuable man in his section, kind and liberal, progressive in every particular, and with his family, enjoys the esteem and good will of the community.

ROBERT C. BROWN.—Among the representatives of American manhood who are filling meritorious position with, and are well rewarded by the Standard Oil Company, none is more justly popular with the workmen whose interests he so conscientiously studies than Robert C. Brown, the efficient foreman of the Mendota Pumping Station. He was born in Fort Laramie, Wyo., on February 12, 1878, the son of Dr. T. V. Brown, a native of Marbach, Wurtemberg, Germany. The grandfather was a physician and surgeon, and as ship-surgeon sailed in the Transatlantic trade. He traveled between Hamburg and New York, and died aboard ship when T. V. was only a lad of fourteen. The boy landed in New York and for a time lived with a French family. He found that he had a cousin named Eminger, who was an assistant to the Secretary of War; and having sought him out and enlisted his sympathetic cooperation, he received a good education and in time became a graduate in medicine with the degree of M. D.

When the Civil War broke out, Eminger joined the Southern Confederacy, but Dr. T. V. Brown remained true to the cause of the Union. He served in the hospital department during the entire war, and it was his privilege to have been with President Lincoln on some of his visits to the front, and he became a great admirer of the heroic President. He continued in the army and in 1890 came to the Presidio in San Francisco, where he lived for four years, until he was retired. Then he was made superintendent of the German Hospital in San Francisco, and remained there another four years, when he resigned.

It had been Dr. Brown's hobby to engage in the poultry business, so he started a poultry ranch at San Leandro, which he ran for a time, or until his extravagance in the menu he provided for his fowls compelled him to quit. Then he engaged in the drug business in Saratoga, Santa Clara County, for a time; but selling out, he purchased the Red Cross Pharmacy in San Jose, and there he did so well that he continued until his death on February 12, 1914. He was a well-read man, had a retentive memory, and was a good conversationalist; and possessing a fine personality, he was often sought as a speaker for special occasions in societies, clubs and schools.

By the marriage of Dr. Brown and Mrs. Pauline Lauk, a native of Stuttgart, Germany, five children were born: Gertrude, in San Jose; Robert C., of this review; Eddie, deceased; Eleanor, an employe of the San Francisco branch of the United States Pension Bureau until it was abolished, and now bookkeeper and assistant superintendent of Fabiola Hospital, Oakland; and Theodore V., a prominent pharmacist in San Jose, and a member of the state

legislature during the session of 1917, and served in the assembly. By a former marriage of Dr. Brown he was the father of a daughter, Margaret, now Mrs. William Minck, and the mother of one son, William B., who served over-seas in the 363d Infantry, and who there met death bravely in the great cause for which the United States and her Allies warred; while on guard duty in the trenches, on October 4, 1918, he was shot through the head and killed.

When only twelve years of age Robert Brown came to San Francisco from Fort Bayard, N. M., and since then he has become a typical western man. He was educated in the public schools of the Bay City, and at the San Francisco Polytechnic, and later followed various lines of work, including apprentice to surgical instrument manufacturer, electrical business, and the sale of general merchandise, and manufacturing. Then he came to Turlock during the building of the Turlock Ditch, on which he was employed, and so had something to do with the development of that part of the State.

In 1902, Mr. Brown began his service for the Standard Oil Company on the construction of the pipe-line from Bakersfield to the Bay; and when, in 1903, the line was completed, he worked as fireman. Then, in 1905, he was made engineer, later assistant chief engineer, and then chief engineer. In 1907 he came to the Mendota Pumping Station as Assistant Engineer, and in 1911 he was appointed Chief Engineer and is serving as Station Foreman. For some years, therefore, Mr. Brown has been in charge of the building up of this place, and there one finds a well-housed group of employes for whose personal comfort and welfare he is ever solicitous. The station is one of the largest on the line, because it gets oil from Coalinga as well as from Bakersfield; and along the pipe-line Mr. Brown is the oldest official in years as well as in service on the line.

On March 23, 1914, Mr. Brown was married at Fresno to Miss Leveian Eleanor Moore, a native of Portland, Ore., and the daughter of Samuel and Caroline (Howard) Moore, natives of Ohio and Oregon respectively. Grandfather Moore is now the oldest pioneer living in Lane County, Ore., and Mrs. Brown's parents both reside in Oregon. Mrs. Brown is a member of the Pythian Sisters and the L. O. T. M. Mr. and Mrs. Brown had a son, Robert V., who died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown own a ranch of forty acres seven miles south of Mendota Pumping Station, and they also own land at Bloomfield, Cal., and 160 acres nine miles west of the pumping-station. This place Mrs. Brown homesteaded, and they now hold a Government deed to the land. Mr. Brown, who is a Republican, is a delegate to the Pine Flat Irrigation project, and is also interested in oil development in other fields, and is a stockholder in the Midway Visalia Oil Company. He is a trustee of the Tranquillity Union High School Board, and is clerk of the board. Like his good wife, he is public-spirited and endeavors to advance the interests of Fresno County.

JOHN W. SMITH.—An enterprising and progressive California merchant, who had the honor of having erected the first store-building at Biola, and whose wife was the first postmaster in that place and served with exceptional ability and to everybody's satisfaction until the office was discontinued, was John W. Smith, who first came to California in the early nineties. He was born at Danville, in the good old state of Virginia, on April 5, 1868, the son of Levi W. Smith, a native of Maryland. Josiah Smith, the grandfather, was a Marylander, but he removed to Virginia with his family and there became a planter. Levi W. Smith was a wheelwright, and he ran a carriage and wagon factory; he was also an undertaker and made coffins. He served in the Civil War and he continued business at Danville. He married Martha Coan, also born in Virginia. These good parents had three boys, and John W. was second in order of birth.

John W. Smith attended the public schools and when fourteen began to paddle his own canoe. He went to North Carolina with an uncle, Thomas Smith, a farmer, and for two years was a guard in the State Prison at Raleigh.

He resigned, and became a salesman for a wholesale tobacco house, for which he traveled through North Carolina. Railroads were few, and the salesman was expected to make the deliveries, usually by teams. At the end of two years, in 1892, he came to Minnesota; then in a few months to Missouri; and in 1893 to California.

Having spent the summer at Bakersfield, with Miller & Lux, Mr. Smith came in the fall to Fresno and here at once engaged in farming on the West Side. In partnership with Walter Caruthers, he leased the Jeff James place and ran 2,000 acres, using several teams, large out-headers and threshers; but the dry years and poor crops set them back in what otherwise would have been a very successful venture, and after two years, they dissolved the partnership. Mr. Smith then went to Paso de Robles and farmed on the Estrella Plains, raising grain; and he engaged in cattle-growing at Parkfield, on the county line, running from three to four hundred head. When he sold out, he removed to San Joaquin County and at Escalon bought a ranch, engaging in dairying, and raising stock and alfalfa. In December, 1913, he sold out and located at Biola, when the railroad had just been completed. He built the first store there, which was the first structure except a small cottage and real estate office; and he put in a stock of general merchandise, and here he continued in business up to the time of his recent accidental death.

At Paso de Robles, in 1902, Mr. Smith was married to Mrs. Mary (Freeman) Fanset, a native of that beautiful town and the daughter of J. L. Freeman, a pioneer there. By her first marriage she had four children: Elmer; Carl, a partner in the business with his mother; Annie, deceased; and Belle. Mr. and Mrs. Smith had two children: Allan, who is a graduate of the Kerman High School, and assists his mother; and Coan.

Mr. Smith was always a public-spirited man, and in San Joaquin County he served for years as a school trustee. Mr. Smith passed away on January 26, 1919, meeting death in an automobile accident, since which time Mrs. Smith and her son, Carl Fanset, conduct the business.

ANTON NIELSEN.—A worthy and prosperous rancher, Anton Nielsen has been a resident of Fresno County since January 6, 1890, and during twenty years out of the twenty-nine he has resided in the vicinity of Reedley. He is a native of Denmark, where he was born in Jaaland, June 18, 1870, a son of Niels and Dorthe Nielsen, who were the parents of six children, Anton, the subject of this sketch, being the youngest and the only one of the family residing in the United States.

On January 6, 1890, Anton Nielsen became a resident of Fresno County. As soon as he was able to do so, he became a property owner, realizing he had found an ideal spot for a home and to become independent. His ranch is only one-half mile from Reedley and is devoted to the production of raisin grapes (muscat and Thompson seedless), peaches, and some alfalfa. The ranch formerly consisted of eighty acres, forty of which were grain land, but set to muscats and Thompson seedless by Mr. Nielsen. He sold one-half and the portion he retained is highly improved and extremely productive, made so by good management and hard work. Mr. Nielsen is well known for his uprightness of character and honesty of purpose in all of his business relations with his fellow men. He believes in using up-to-date methods in the cultivation and propagation of his products and is regarded as a successful viticulturist. In 1919 he erected a modern home with all conveniences, at a cost of about \$9,000.

On December 16, 1902, Anton Nielsen was united in marriage with Miss Augusta Rasmussen, who also is a native of Denmark, where she first saw the light of day in Jaaland on July 7, 1884. They became the parents of five children: Edith R., Anton M., Dorothy M., J. Verner and Clara M. Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen are highly respected in the community where they reside. Mr. Nielsen's successful career as a rancher, which has been attained by



Anton Nielsen.



Augusta S. Nielsen

persistent effort and strict economy, and in which he has been ably assisted by his good wife, is worthy of emulation by the younger generation. Mr. Nielsen has been a strong advocate of cooperation among the fruit-growers and is a stockholder in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company. In politics he is a Democrat in national affairs. The family attends the Danish Lutheran Church. After being in California eleven years, Mr. Nielsen went back to visit the scenes of his youth, but returned to the land of his adoption more than ever satisfied with his selection of a home.

BERTRAND W. GEARHART.—A native son of California, born in Fresno, May 31, 1890, Bertrand W. Gearhart is a son of J. W. and Mamie (Johnson) Gearhart, of whom mention is made on another page of this history. B. W. Gearhart was educated in the grammar and high schools of his native city, after which he attended the University of Southern California Law School, from which institution he was graduated in June, 1914, receiving the degree of LL.B. He had matriculated at the University in September, 1910, and pursued the regularly prescribed law course, but contrary to the usual ways of the university law students, he won his admission to the bar of the state one year before his graduation. He took and successfully passed the regular bar examination and was admitted to practice July 21, 1913. After his graduation from the university he became associated with Short and Sutherland, of Fresno, in the practice of his profession and continued with that firm until he received the appointment as a deputy in the office of the district attorney of Fresno County.

When the call came for volunteers in the great World War, just ended, Mr. Gearhart gave up his duties and entered the Second Officer's Training Camp at the Presidio, in San Francisco and on November 27, 1917, he received his commission as a lieutenant. He served through his enlistment with distinction and honor and for six months saw active service in France as the commanding officer of the Six Hundred Ninth Aero Squadron. He was in the army eighteen months in all. He sailed from Bordeaux, France, January 28, 1919, and was honorably discharged at Garden City, N. Y., on March 4, of that year, and arrived home on the ninth of that month. He found his position awaiting his arrival and he immediately doffed his uniform and went back to his desk and his books.

Mr. Gearhart is a Republican in politics. Fraternally he is a member of the Elks, Native Sons, and Woodmen of the World; he also belongs to the University Club and Sunnyside Country Club. He is deeply interested in the development and progress of Fresno County and his ability and forceful virility will no doubt be telling factors in its growth.

CLAYTON F. DRAPER.—As banker and justice of the peace of Kingsburg, Clayton F. Draper was born on the old Draper farm in the Franklin school district, and attended that district school, while he grew up on the farm. F. A. Draper, his father, was a large wheat raiser and the lad came to have a general grain-farmer's experience. His mother was, in maidenhood, Florence M. Livermore. As a high school boy, he rode his bicycle to the school at Selma, and being athletic, he became a bicycle racer. He carried off the cycling pennant, and was active in all kinds of athletics. He played on the football team as quarter-back, and helped for several years to win the pennant in a chain including Fresno, Bakersfield and other towns in the Valley. Finally he was graduated from the Selma Union High School with the Class of '01, popularly known as "The Naughty Ones."

An uncle, John W. Livermore, was a pioneer rancher and wheat grower near Kingsburg, and during vacations, Clayton kept busy with him driving a number of his father's horses. Later he engaged with A. M. McKean at threshing, and his next venture was at the Coalinga oil fields, where he was a tool dresser.

While he was still in the high school, Mr. Draper was asked by D. S. Snodgrass, now deceased, to accept a clerkship in the First National Bank of Selma, of which he was president, but he was then working with Mr. McKean's threshing crew under an arrangement whereby he was to receive seventy-five cents per day extra if he would stay to the end of the season. Mr. Snodgrass, learning of this, allowed him to stay out his entire time, and then he began as a clerk in the First National Bank at Selma until the First National Bank of Kingsburg was organized, and he opened the first set of books there. Mr. Draper and A. T. Lindgren, the present cashier worked there together in 1904. After continuing for some time with the latter organization, Mr. Draper came to the Kingsburg Commercial and Savings Bank on August 15, 1915, as assistant cashier. He served as treasurer of the Red Cross on the various drives for war purposes, also had charge of the issuing of licenses for the sale of explosives. He was a member of the County Council of Defense and the Exemption Board in Fresno County.

Mr. Draper is a member of the Republican State Central Committee, is a personal friend of Senator Hiram Johnson, and served on the entertainment committee when, as governor, Mr. Johnson visited Kingsburg. He was appointed Justice of the Peace to fill a vacancy in August, 1915; and in 1918 he was elected to the same post. He is a notary public, and has been city treasurer ever since Kingsburg was incorporated.

In August, 1907, at Fowler, Cal., Mr. Draper was married to Miss Blanche Bonoil, a daughter of J. B. Bonoil, a pioneer rancher, and they have one daughter, Pauline F. Mr. Draper is Past Master of Traver Lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M., at Kingsburg, and also belongs to the Eastern Star of which he is Past Patron; also belongs to the Woodmen of the World and the Independent Order of Foresters.

It was in 1904 that a well-printed, but modest little volume, "An Autobiography of Elias Johnson Draper, A Pioneer of California, containing some thrilling incidents relative to crossing the plains by ox-team, and some very interesting particulars of life in California in the early days," was issued from the office of the Fresno Evening Democrat, and placed on sale. In giving these chatty reminiscences to the public, Mr. Draper performed a truly patriotic service.

He tells of his boyhood days in Indiana, back in the thirties, and of his growing up there and beginning as a carpenter, when wages were thirty-seven and a half cents a day. No wonder, then, that the return of early gold-miners and others from California began to convince Elias that he was making scant progress, and that if he, too, wished to get rich quickly, he would better hie himself to this Coast. His young wife, despite her parents' misgivings, agreed to accompany him to the Promised Land, and having disposed of their little property, the young couple started off on horseback, with their infant boy in arms, on the first stretch of the journey. Elias was instructed to inquire for letters at St. Louis telling him of the location of a brother; Elias traveled by sleds, railroad and inland streams to St. Louis, then on to Louisville and, getting no mail, finally had to continue to Lexington, when the desired-for message was received, saying that Brother George was still 200 miles away, and to leave his wife, buy a horse and come to him!

In this way Draper continues his narrative of sickness by the way, with no place to lay one's head—partly due to the sparse population, partly to fear by the few settlers of the honesty of strangers or the possible malignant character of their maladies; and he tells of danger from highway robbers, sharpers willing to fleece those fitting out and then disposed to try bulldozing tactics, and the picturesque role of the Freemason, who bobs up at the right moment to aid the unfortunates recognized as fellow-Masons. He was entertained by a slaveholder, and was astonished to hear him say grace at table and thus give evidence that he was a Christian. He had to ford streams, at great risk to himself and his cattle, and they encountered such a cloudburst,

with thunder and lightning, that the hail almost stunned the pilot boy, and cattle and wagons were soon swimming about. Hard drinking and other fruits of the unbridled saloon was the order of the day, and crime followed in its wake and made still more unsafe such a journey. Exorbitant rates were charged for ferrying cattle and wagons across the streams, and one had to submit, even almost to bankruptcy, or travel for miles to another ford, or patronize less dependable transports. Thieving, drunken and quarrelsome Indians also menaced their paths and required sharp turning, and wild prairie fires, the result of carelessness in dropping fire on the grass, was one of the risks for which they themselves were responsible. Buffalo, too, shaking the earth with their heavy tread, and stirring up clouds of dust hiding them eventually from view, added to the excitement of the hour. Sometimes the problem of helping themselves across a turbulent stream, whose depth was unknown, was so serious that nothing was to be done but to remove the body of a wagon from the axle and wheels, and caulk it so as to make a kind of scow in which to float across, and even then they would be carried far down the river.

Of course there were diversions, but they were due rather to the triumphant qualities of the human being and the natural tendency of the American toward humor. On the third of July, at a summit on the Rocky Mountains, they found plenty of ice ten or twelve inches under the soil, and on "the glorious Fourth" the women put on their white dresses, and they all marched in military style, beating on an old tin bucket for a drum. Some hare was also bagged and there was a steaming potpie for the feast. Not long after, however, even death threatened them from the action of some mischievous boys who had climbed up on top of a high hill, turned loose a large rock which came down among the cattle, causing a general stampede, and all but catching two men, through being interfered with by trees, and so protected. Another redeeming bit of humor was the imposition of a two-hour sermon on Mormonism, by a Mormon who wished to convert them, and who insisted on that privilege in return for rendering them some aid in pointing the way to green pastures further up the mountain, where he delivered his harangue. Many anecdotes are given of rough border life, cowardly assassinations, lynch law and summary trials and dispensing of justice, together with shyster maneuvers by unprincipled lawyers to get their clients free, or to hoodwink the latter out of all they had.

Finally, after all these dangers, together with exposures to wild animals including the grizzly that often cut into their trail and traveled even between their wagons, Elias Draper and his party arrived at Stockton on October 3, 1853, having been on the road six months. He had worn out his shoes away back in the mountains, and arrived in the Golden State barefoot. He took an old saddle skirt and cut out two sandals, and tied them to his feet, and thus saved himself from being snagged.

WILLIAM DOHERTY.—An honest, upright and good-natured old Californian, of genial hospitality, is William Doherty, who sowed the first alfalfa in Kings County. He was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, on April 25, 1852, the son of George Doherty who was also born there and came of a family originally called O'Doherty. He was married there to Margaret O'Hara, a native of the region, and they had six children. When William was still a baby, in the fall of 1852, the parents crossed the ocean to the United States—and it was then that Mr. O'Doherty dropped the O' from his name—and settled at Great Barrington, Mass., where he was a farmer; but in 1856 they moved west to Madison, Wis. There the mother died in 1857, leaving eight children; whereupon the father moved to Kansas and settled on Walnut Creek, sixty miles west of St. Joseph. In 1860 he crossed the great plains with his family, traveling by ox teams and wagon up the Platte River; and on the way he and his party were attacked by Sioux Indians. The train had

forty-six fighting men, and when they were surrounded by Indians, the wagons were used as corrals, and they fought the savages for thirty-six hours. At last, "Buffalo Bill" and a company of United States cavalry came to the rescue, and the Indians fled. The Indians used bows and arrows; William Doherty and his sister moulded bullets for the riflemen.

Arriving in California without any further mishap, the family settled in the San Joaquin Valley, where George Doherty farmed Wallace Kerrick's place. Then the father bought a ranch on Mormon Slough, but in the fall of 1863 sold out and located in Stanislaus County, near what is now Modesto. He built a house and was the pioneer farmer in the region between Stanislaus and Tuolumne Rivers. He had 320 acres which he operated until he died, in 1883, at the age of eighty-four. The mother had died in Wisconsin; and of the eight children, five are still living. The oldest girl, Fannie, acted as mother to the rest of the children until she was married in 1864.

The third youngest in the order of birth, William was for a while in Kansas and then he crossed the plains to California, where he grew up on a farm, attended school and remained home until his seventeenth year. Then he began to farm on his own hook on the west side of Stanislaus County, near what is now Westley and after that he and his brother-in-law, Monroe Garner, took up land west of Grayson, plowed the raw land with eight-horse teams, and raised grain. William took up an option on three sections of railroad land, improved a part by planting to grain, and succeeded well enough to clear up all that was necessary to pay for the entire outfit. This included two six-horse and two eight-horse teams, a header wagon and thresher; for the land he paid \$1.25 an acre, and had about \$8,000 left. The two dry years, 1870-71, plunged him \$5,000 in debt; but in 1872 he put 2,000 acres into grain, cleaned up sufficient to enable him to pay all he owed, and then had \$10,000 over.

Selling out, William and his brother Robert removed to Kings County where they took up homesteads and bought five sections of railroad land. They went in for grain raising, and met with success; Robert is still on the place, and William continued there until 1901, when he sold out to his brother all he owned there except 160 acres; and then he came to Fresno County. He bought 1,200 acres on Little Dry Creek, in old Auberry Valley and went in for stock-raising, farming and the wood business. In 1914 he traded that property for his present place of eighty acres on McKinley Avenue, in the Barstow district, ten miles from Fresno. He devotes this to a vineyard of about thirty-seven acres of Thompson seedless, nine acres Feherzagos, and a peach orchard of ten acres, and the balance in alfalfa, the whole forming a fine place. He makes his residence at 327 Coast Avenue, Fresno, where he has built a comfortable home. He still has 160 acres of alfalfa land at Hanford, and eighty acres on Little Dry Creek. He owns, too, 140 acres in the sinks of Huron, which he rents out. He belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company and California Peach Growers, Inc.

While at Visalia Mr. Doherty was married to Miss Annie Jessie Evans, who was born near Madison, Wis., and came to California in 1870 with her parents; four children have blessed the union: Edna is Mrs. Garner and resides in Clovis; Margaret has become Mrs. Gibbons of Hanford; Eva is Mrs. Spears, of Fresno; and William J. He was educated in the Fresno High School and Heald's Business College and held a position in the First National Bank until he began to assist his father on the ranch. He enlisted in the United States Army, served with the Ninety-first Division until mustered out at San Francisco, May, 1919. He is now on the ranch and married to Ethel Gatewood.

When not giving his time to the social life of the Independent Order of Foresters, of which he is a member, William Doherty takes part in the councils of the Democratic party, having been a delegate to both county and state conventions. He has served on the grand jury, and for two terms was



J. H. Duff.

school trustee in Kings County as well as in Fresno County, where he was trustee in the Auberry district.

At the time that Mr. Doherty sowed the first alfalfa in Kings County, he paid fifty cents a pound for the seed. He and his brother and Perry C. Phillips built the Lake Side ditch, which was the first ditch for irrigating in Kings County. The Doherty brothers were the first farmers near Hanford.

Mr. Doherty has traveled much through California, and is well-posted on early days and historical old landmarks. He is also familiar with the wonders and beauties of California mountains and valleys. He spent four years in Death Valley, prospecting for nitrate of soda, and found valuable deposits. In fact, he was so lucky, that he also succeeded in selling the find to an English syndicate; but his partners could not be induced to sell out at the time and they lost out. In the basin, 261 feet below sea-level he found a vast ledge of rock salt, four miles wide and fifteen miles long; while in the south-west corner of Death Valley is a range of what appears like a gravel hill. On close inspection, however, one sees that the gravel forms only a veneer from six to eight feet thick, and that the balance underneath is solid rock salt.

JOHN HARRISON DUFF.—To have helped in the building up of a community and to continue a worker for its further development and progress, entitles a man to a place in the annals of the county, the advancement of which as a whole depends upon the success of the settlements within its boundaries. Such an upbuilder is J. H. Duff, one of the contributors to Reedley's growth and expansion into an important adjunct to the prosperity of Fresno County. A native of West Virginia, he was born near Charleston, July 20, 1863, the son of Dr. John H. and Margaret (Allen) Duff, of Scotland and Virginia, respectively. Stonewall Jackson was a first cousin to Dr. John H. Duff, their mothers being Harrison sisters; it is on record that many a fight was had between the two young fellows because Jackson would call Dr. Duff a Black Abolitionist, their family all being Republicans. Dr. Duff and his wife were the parents of fourteen children, thirteen of whom grew to maturity and are engaged in the useful occupation of teaching, with the exception of one son, Robert, who is an extensive farmer, and John Harrison of this review, likewise engaged in agricultural pursuits. Among the grandchildren there are three doctors, two lawyers, and many business and commercial men. The family moved from Virginia to Johnson County, Ill., where they took up land, which is still in the family, and resided in that state for a number of years, then removed to Ohio, and finally returned to what is now West Virginia and here bought 1,400 acres of Government land, in Jackson County, which they improved and here the parents died, the father at sixty-seven years of age and the mother at eighty-six.

In 1888, John Harrison Duff took up his residence in Indiana, in which state, in 1891, he was joined in marriage with Miss Rebecca A. Heath, a daughter of Harvey and Armenta (Finley) Heath, and a native of Indiana. Of this union one son, Robert C., was born, April 12, 1895, whose demise occurred on November 30, 1916; the mother passed away October 26, 1906. Their son, Robert C., was a graduate of the Reedley grammar school, completed the high school course also, and graduated from the Central Business College in Los Angeles, where he died.

Mr. Duff migrated from Indiana to California in 1901, and settled in Reedley, on his present ranch. He later purchased 160 acres of land, which he put under cultivation, divided into small tracts and sold; and with others bought 300 acres, named it the Peck Colony, and sold to settlers. His home ranch was devoted to the production of peaches, but he supplanted them with white Adriatic figs during 1919. He has a large and well constructed home which, with its modern improvements and pleasant surroundings, adds to the enjoyment of life. During his younger days Mr. Duff traveled through many

states, and after his marriage he and his wife continued traveling so that he has the distinction of having traveled in every state of the Union but four, and has been out of the United States four times into Mexico and Canada. A man of foresight and progressive ideas, he has been a booster for all cooperative associations to help the ranchers, and belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company and to the California Peach Growers Association. He has also been a liberal supporter of all projects to aid the Government in the prosecution of the World War.

While a resident of West Virginia, Mr. Duff was a member of the board of education in Washington township, Jackson County, and also served as deputy marshal under George W. Atkinson, later governor of the state. Since settling in Fresno County he has sought no public office, but has been ready at all times to aid in promoting the best interests of his section, which he foresaw was destined to grow into a prosperous agricultural district. Among other business interests, Mr. Duff is a charter member and stockholder in the Reedley National Bank.

ISAAC DOSSEY MORRISON.—A well-known man in the development of the raisin industry, who has very naturally come to be a leader—partly through the inheritance of ability, and partly through his own development, by foresight and hard work—in helping to determine the agricultural future of the Golden State, is Isaac Dossey Morrison, the wide-awake and popular managing superintendent of the Kingsburg branch of the California Associated Raisin Company, the leading shipping-plant of the town. His father, the late Ezra D. Morrison, was a Kingsburg pioneer and one of the first successful raisin growers. He moved to the vicinity of Kingsburg with his family from Stockton in the fall of 1880, and at the time of his death, in 1898, he was sixty-five years old, and was one of the honored pioneers of both Fresno County and the state, while he was pleasantly remembered in the East as a consistent and active member of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church. He owned an excellent ranch of 160 acres northeast of Kingsburg, forty acres of which were in vines, ten acres in orchard, thirty acres in alfalfa and the balance in grain.

He was born at Portland, Me. He started for California in 1849, but stopped at numerous places for two or three years, and came across the Isthmus in company with his brother-in-law in the fall of 1852. They had to lie by at Panama for quite a while, waiting their turn to take a steamship to San Francisco, and so great was the rush of travel that they were offered a premium of \$250 for their turn to embark, but they pressed on to San Francisco, arriving there almost destitute, and Ezra Morrison traded his pocket-knife for his first meal. Then he went on to the gold diggings on the American River and mined there; and having struck success and made a stake, he returned to Stockton, where he engaged in grain-farming and stock-raising. He soon became a large operator, farming from 250 to 400 acres to wheat; and he helped build the Mariposa Road from Stockton via Collegeville to Escalon. Then he formed a partnership with Joseph Leighton, Isaac's uncle; and they went to San Luis Obispo County and bought ten mares which were mustangs or Spanish ponies for breeding purposes, and bred these to stallions of the "Copper Bottom" breed and these were soon widely recognized as among the most successful breeders of that excellent strain.

Ezra Morrison had married Miss Laura Anna Dossey, a native of Indiana, then of Dossey Meadows, a fertile section back in the mountains named after her father, James Dossey, who was one of California's pioneers, and one of the best-known of California sheepmen. He had moved from Indiana to Missouri, and from Missouri to New Orleans, La., where he embarked for San Francisco by ship via Cape Horn, and arrived in the bay city in pioneer days. They had five children, among whom were Charles Yuba and Cynthia Eunice, twins, and Harold E. Morrison. An infant, Johnny, died in his third month.

Isaac Dossey Morrison was born at Stockton, on November 6, 1874, and grew up on his father's extensive grain and stock ranch, where he went to work driving horses, plowing and handling horses while he was a mere boy. At fifteen he drove four and six horses on header wagons, and helped to harvest and thresh wheat and other grain. And with his parents he came to Kingsburg in 1880, finishing the grammar schools here. He early became interested in vineyards and raisin-growing, and now he owns and operates a fine raisin ranch near Kingsburg, in addition to his main employment at that city.

He became actively interested in the welfare of the Raisin Growers at Kingsburg who organized several years ago, a company of farmers owning their plant; and he took charge as field man in 1916, and on April 19, 1918, became the managing superintendent of Plant No. 9 of the California Associated Raisin Company, when they took over the Kingsburg plant and business. The raisins are stemmed here and then shipped to Fresno, where they are processed and then put up in cartons for the market; and so important has the industry become for the town and locality, that over 7,000 tons were handled at Kingsburg in 1918, while 1919's output is bound to show a large increase.

Mr. Morrison was married to Miss Louisa Edith Paulson at Kingsburg on October 25, 1899; and now the well-mated couple reside in a beautiful home at the corner of A and Lewis Streets, where they dispense a hearty hospitality. They are both active members of, and attendants at the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. Morrison is the organist; for his father's people were all musical and he inherited that gift to such an extent that he has become an accomplished violinist and organist. Four children share this church life with their parents: Pearl, Eunice, Hugh and Carroll. The latter was born the day before Christmas, 1917.

Mr. Morrison is a Mason and a member of the Kingsburg Lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M. In national politics, he is a Republican.

JOHN A. ARMSTRONG.—Not every resident in California has such an interesting record of development and building to their credit as John A. Armstrong, the successful farmer and stockman of Auberry Valley, who came to California in the middle eighties and not only did much teaming in former days, but built various sections of highway, including an important stretch of the toll road recently constructed. He was born in Illinois, near DuQuoin, on February 15, 1857, the son of William Stewart Armstrong, also a native of that state. His father was a native of Kentucky, who came as a pioneer to Illinois and built the first mill in that vicinity for the grinding of corn-meal, using for power the energy supplied through oxen treading. William Armstrong was a farmer and stock-raiser, who died near his home when about fifty years of age. His wife also died there, the mother of five children—four girls and a boy.

Brought up on a farm in Illinois, John attended the public school of the neighborhood until he was sixteen years old, or about the time that both of his parents died. Then he struck out for himself, working here and there on farms, and in 1880 going to Texas, where, in the vicinity of Weatherford, he was in the employ of the Texas Pacific Railroad.

In 1884 he came to California and settled for a while at Merced where, for a couple of years, he was employed on a ranch. Then he leased a ranch, and in the boom year of 1887 located in Auberry Valley, where he preempted 160 acres and also homesteaded the same sized tract. Later he bought his present place and engaged in the raising of hay and stock. He sold hay to teamsters, and he himself freighted for twenty years. With eight and ten-horse teams he hauled between Pine Ridge and Fresno. With the proceeds of his enterprise he bought 880 acres in a body—thirty-five miles from Fresno;

and as the timber had been all cut, he quit teaming. He visited a dozen little mills, and made a trip every week or ten days.

Now Mr. Armstrong is engaged in raising grain and hay, and also in breeding cattle and hogs. His farm is fenced and cross-fenced, and he has many improvements, with a large capacity for irrigation. His cattle brand is a circle, with a dot inside; and there is no more honored member of the State Association of Cattle Men.

While in Fresno Mr. Armstrong was married to Miss Frances Elston, a native of Missouri, by whom he has had five children—Berdina, Philip G., Grace, Stewart and John. Mr. Armstrong is a Republican in party politics, and a long, hard-worker for the elevation of the ballot, and he has been a consistent advocate of better schools and the best of educational advantages. In his desire to help in such work in the most practical way, he has served as clerk of the Big Sandy board of education for years.

M. S. McMURTRY, M. D.—Manifold and varied as are the lasting benefits conferred on society by one profession alone, that of medical men and women, and much as doctors have accomplished in the great early and later pioneer work of building the magnificent commonwealth of California, it is doubtful if the public today realizes what the splendidly trained, assiduous and brave-hearted corps of physicians has done to make Central California still more of an earthly paradise. Among this class of royal-blooded souls none is more justly esteemed and popular than Dr. M. S. McMurtry, who was born in Batesville, Ark., in 1880, the son of Dr. Milton McMurtry, a native of Fulton, Mo. Having finished the usual collegiate studies, Milton McMurtry graduated from the Missouri Medical School at St. Louis, receiving the degree of M. D., after which he went to Arkansas to practice. Later he moved to Erin Springs, Okla., then to Purcell and still later to Oklahoma City. It was in 1906 he located in Clovis, Cal., having in each place established an enviable reputation for skill and intuition. Milton's father, Calvin McMurtry, was a native of Kentucky, though of Scotch descent, and was for some time the holder of a very responsible position in the United States mail service.

The good wife of Dr. Milton McMurtry was Nellie Byers before her marriage, and she was born at Batesville, Ark. Her father came from Philadelphia, and her mother from Boston; and through their happy union she received a very broadening culture. Both Dr. Milton and Mrs. McMurtry died at Clovis in 1916.

An only child, M. S. McMurtry came to Purcell in 1885 and there attended school; and with his father he made the race into Oklahoma and located claims and lots. While his father continued his practice, the mother and son lived on their claim. He also went to school in Batesville, and then he entered the University of Oklahoma at Norman. He was there two years, when he matriculated at Westminster College, in Fulton, Mo. He graduated in 1900, with the degree of Bachelor of Science.

Entering the University of Missouri, he attended courses in the medical department at Columbia, and graduated in 1902 with the degree of M. D. For two years he was an interne at Parker Memorial Hospital, and then he began to practice in Oklahoma City, where he remained until the fall of 1904. In that year he moved to California and located at Clovis; and here he resumed his professional practice. He was soon an active member of the County Medical Society of the San Joaquin Valley, the State Medical Society and the American Medical Association; and having profited by postgraduate courses at the New York Polyclinic and the New York Postgraduate College, his learning and fitness were soon generally recognized, and he was made Health Officer for Clovis and Deputy County Health Officer. He also became surgeon to the Fresno Flume and Lumber Company, and local surgeon to the



Chas Williamson

Southern Pacific. Taking up the general practice of medicine and surgery, he is also surgeon in charge of the Clovis Sanatorium.

Dr. McMurtry's interests and activities are not confined to medical work alone. With true scientific interest in all about him, he has gratified an ambition to have a practical part in the development of agriculture here, and now owns a fine vineyard near Clovis. He also has ninety acres four miles out of Clovis, sixty-five acres of which are devoted to Calimyrna fig culture. To irrigate his land properly, and to render himself somewhat independent in his ranch operations, Dr. McMurtry has installed his own pumping plant.

Amid the delightful environment of Clovis, the Doctor was married to Lucretia Smith, a native of Selma, who was educated at Clovis and is the daughter of A. P. Smith, the well-known rancher of Clovis. Two children have blessed this marriage, Clayton and Kathleen. Dr. and Mrs. McMurtry attend the Presbyterian Church, and the Doctor, who is indeed a prince among fellows socially, is a member of the local Knights of Pythias, the Woodmen of the World, and the Modern Woodmen of America. While at the University he was popular among the Ipsilon Beta Chi's, and this may be a cue to his general popularity today.

CHARLES WILLIAMSON.—A rancher who is among the best-posted viticulturists in California, and who has been of great service to others by demonstrating the entire success of his advanced methods of planting, ingrafting and fertilizing of vineyards, is Charles Williamson, who came to Fresno in the early eighties and has more and more grown to be optimistic regarding Central California and its wonderful future—an opinion of importance as will be plain to everyone who knows Mr. Williamson's observing powers. He was born at Unst, in the Shetland Islands, on June 1, 1863, the grandson of a sturdy Scotchman who established a residence in which more than one generation was born. Into this severely plain Presbyterian family Henry Williamson, Charles' father, was also introduced, to grow up both a fisherman and a farmer, and in time to marry Janet Isbister, a native of the same section. In 1872, he crossed the ocean with his family to New Brunswick, and located at Fredericton, where he was in the employ of the railroad. After a while he bought a farm, cleared and improved it, and there he resided until, with his family, he joined the subject of our sketch in Fresno County. He bought a ranch in Lone Star and, with the assistance of his children, set out a vineyard; and he still owns ten acres of this property. Now, at the age of eighty-three, he resides in Ashland, Ore., his wife having died in September, 1918. He was a familiar figure in Presbyterian circles, and the honored father of six children, four of whom are still living: David is in Lone Star; Joan has become Mrs. William Lindsey, of Ashland, Ore.; Thomas lives at Fallon, Nev.; and Charles is the well-known Socialist, well-read, of retentive memory, an interesting conversationalist, and in every reasonable respect, generously hospitable. Fortunate indeed is the man who has the privilege of being entertained by him, and who is thus admitted to the warmth and charm of his mind.

Until he was nine years old Charles spent his childhood in the Shetland Islands, and then he sailed the briny deep, with his folks, finding a good harbor in New Brunswick. For a while he attended school there; but it was his wide reading and private study, of his own initiative, in later years, that enabled him to acquire his fund of information. His mother was a wonderfully sensible woman whose delight was to instil helpful principles into others, and from her companionship and example he profited in untold measure.

In May, 1881, Mr. Williamson came to California and pitched his tent in Fresno County. He had an uncle, Charles, who was at one time sheriff of Storey County, Nev., who had located in Fresno County, and to him he came. For a year he worked on a small farm and in an orchard, then he

obtained employment on a larger place, where he assisted in the care of the stock for G. H. Malter, on what is now the Minnewawa vineyard. He ran the first dairy on the place, and added some better ways of handling raw materials for dairying and dairy products.

Still later, Mr. Williamson was engaged by A. B. Butler on his 500-acre vineyard, and he came to superintend that important property before he was twenty-one. Fourteen months later he quit and was then employed by the Fresno Vineyard Company where he learned wine-making and distilling, and acquired a knowledge of the winery business, and then he was offered the superintendency of the Fresno Winery for the same company but he concluded that, on account of the early training by and example of his mother, he did not wish to continue his connection with the business. He therefore took up the superintendency of different vineyards here and in Tulare County; and near Visalia, for two years, he managed a ranch of 4,500 acres—one of the best in California.

On his return to Fresno, Mr. Williamson started in to build up a business for himself. He bought a ranch in Lone Star, and engaged in viticulture; and he leased vineyards and there continued for four years. In 1897 he sold out, and the following year bought his present place devoted to viticulture and consisting originally of forty acres. He bought additional land, and then sold part of his holding; now he has twenty acres adjoining the Kutner schoolhouse, eleven miles east of Fresno. These are set out to Thompson's seedless grapes, and for years he has engaged in packing and shipping the fruit of the vine.

In 1915, with his brother, David, Mr. Williamson went to Madera County and bought 200 acres of land near Madera. The tract was an old, run-down muscat vineyard; but with the aid of his sons, Howard and Ward, he took hold of it, superintended it himself, and, by proper irrigation and cultivation, he succeeded in obtaining two such excellent crops that he had no difficulty, in 1917, in disposing of the property at a big profit. His long experience had shown Mr. Williamson what was the matter with the vineyard, and what must be done to make it highly productive again.

In the fall of 1916, Mr. Williamson and his associates had one of the worst drying seasons known; and while most ranchmen lost their crops, he saved their entire crop by applying his energetic method of handling.

Mr. Williamson is very active in all movements for the advancement of the raisin industry, and in the recent work of the California Associated Raisin Company. A loyal, broad-minded citizen, Mr. Williamson has for years served as trustee and clerk of the Kutner school district.

HENRY FRIES.—A hard-working, reliable old-timer, who has improved and developed many acres and has become a successful farmer, is Henry Fries, who first came to Fresno in the early nineties. He was born in Stepnoia, Samara, Russia, on January 27, 1856, the son of George Fries, a farmer, and from a boy grew up to do farm work, while he attended the local school.

When twenty-two, he was married to Miss Mary Katie Scheidt, a native of that vicinity, and there began to farm for himself, and continued in agricultural pursuits until he came to America. In 1891 he managed to reach Cincinnati, and there he was employed until 1893, when he moved west to California.

On December 6, Mr. Fries set foot in Fresno, and for two years he worked in the vineyards, learning the science of viticulture. Then he bought six acres and a farm outfit, and rented land near Sanger, and for a year engaged in the raising of grain. After that he leased some vineyards, and tried viticulture; and at the end of three years, he bought the Grant vineyard of 160 acres. He devoted 100 acres to the vineyard, and raised raisins, and on the balance of the land raised stock and had a dairy.

This property was well situated twenty-two miles south of Fresno, on the Laguna Grant and when he could, he bought twenty acres more of the Grant, and 160 acres on the West Side. He had 200 acres on the Grant tract, and set out ten acres in an orchard, and he also acquired 160 acres at Wheatville, and 120 acres on the Coalinga road between Kerman and McMullen. This he maintains as a stockfarm, which he rents out to others. He sold all of his Grant land, however, except twenty acres.

In 1912 Mr. Fries retired and located in Fresno, where he built a handsome residence at the corner of C and Inyo Streets. Since then he has built several residences and sold each of them at a good figure. He has traded in lands, happy in his good judgment of present and future values in this land of steadily-increasing prosperity.

Seven children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Fries. Henry; George; Peter; Jacob; Katie is Mrs. Herstein; Mary is Mrs. Nielmeier; and Anna is Mrs. Knaup. The family attend the Zion Lutheran Church of Fresno. Mr. Fries is a Republican, but always an American particularly interested in the community in which he lives.

L. B. FARMER.—As senior member of Farmer & Jacobsen, the well-known real estate dealers, and also as a large fruit-raiser, L. B. Farmer is doing his share in the development of Central California. His father, William Kean Farmer, now deceased, was a well-fixed agriculturist of the Iron State, who was born in Tennessee. The Civil War ruined him but with characteristic British pluck—for his family was of English origin—and American enterprise, he persisted and once more became well-to-do. The mother was Rachel Jane Amos before her marriage, and when twelve years old she came to Missouri from Kentucky, where she was born. There she married, reared a family of six boys and three girls, and is still living, maintaining the old Farmer homestead and farm of 240 acres in Dade County, Mo.

Born near Lockwood in that county on September 25, 1873, the seventh child in the family and the only one destined to come to the Golden State, L. B. grew up on the farm and attended the public grammar school of the neighborhood. He went farther, and graduated from the high school at Lockwood, a member of the Class of '95. After putting aside his school-books, however, he did the very sensible thing of returning to the farm and topping off his knowledge of agriculture.

In 1897, Mr. Farmer was married in Dade County to Miss Ella Dill, a native of that region, and the daughter of J. H. and Rosa (Moore) Dill, both of whom belong to the honor ranks of Missouri pioneer farmer folk. She, too, had graduated from high school study, having pursued her courses at Dayville, and no more promising helpmate could have been found.

After continuing to farm for a while, Mr. Farmer went to Lockwood and there built a livery and sales barn; he then formed a partnership with his youngest brother, A. D. Farmer, for the purchasing and shipping to Kansas City of selected horses and mules. Consignments were also made to St. Louis and Memphis, and at the same time a good home market was created. It was not long before the partners were busy buying for the Spanish-American and the Boer Wars, and in that field of activity our subject continued until 1906 when he sold out to his brother, and turned his face farther westward. A prime reason for his change was deference to the views of Mrs. Farmer, who had begun to fix her interest on California, and to wish that she, too, were among the thousands blessed by its favoring climate, resources and economic conditions. Mrs. Farmer and her child had preceded him to the Coast, to spy out the land, as it were, when Mr. Farmer, in December, 1906, arrived at Selma, and both were delighted with the locality.

For the first four or five years Mr. Farmer engaged in various enterprises, and in each he demonstrated his exceptional fitness for whatever he undertook. For three years he conducted the St. George Livery, and then

was for a couple of years agent for the Standard Oil Company. Then he embarked with E. S. Habler in the buying and selling of land, and in this work he has been engaged ever since. They started at the corner of Second and Front Streets, on what was then known as the Unger corner, and the firm was known as Habler & Farmer. The fire of 1914 burned them out, whereupon Habler took up ranching and Mr. Farmer continued in the real estate business, moving over to the Rowell Block. He has owned, bought and sold several farms, and is at present the owner of four ranches. Now the firm consists of L. B. Farmer and H. J. Jacobsen; their office is at 1919 High Street.

Mr. Farmer is signed up in the California Raisin Growers Association, and is one of the boosters for Central California's prosperity. He has 120 acres devoted to grapes and as the possessor of four farms is well known as a fruit-grower. He gives attention to every detail, believing that the mastery of a subject is the only goal and that by individual perfection and success the highest standard of a community is reached, and he thus sets an enviable example of civic pride.

Mr. and Mrs. Farmer have one child, Bessie, who is a member of the Class of '18 of the Selma High School, and everywhere a favorite as well as the mainspring of life at the Farmer residence, 2004 High Street. The family attends the Baptist Church of Selma and has participated in its various activities.

GEORGE McKINLAY.—There are men to whom defeat is an unknown quantity, opposition is swept aside, aggression is met with stubborn resistance, and success finally crowns their determined efforts to win. This has been the experience of George McKinlay, who was born in Scotland, on May 10, 1856, at Stirling. He is a son of James and Elizabeth (Morton) McKinlay, who were both natives of Scotland and were the parents of nine children, George being the only member of the family in the United States. James McKinlay was a merchant tailor who conducted an extensive business at Stirling. George was reared in Scotland and is a graduate of the high school at Stirling.

On March 5, 1878, George McKinlay was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Currie, a native of Scotland, and they had seven children: James, who is married and has a son, James, Jr.; George, who is married but has no children; Nancy, is Mrs. J. M. Macdonald, and the mother of three children, Elizabeth, Ian and a baby; William is married but has no issue; Elizabeth, single; Erick is married and has an infant daughter. These children are all living and residents of California. Robert C. is deceased. The wife and mother passed away in 1910.

George McKinlay immigrated to the United States and, with his family, located on his present ranch in the Minkler district, Fresno County, Cal. At that time the ranch contained but forty acres. Mr. McKinlay began to improve the place and built a residence, also bought the necessary implements for the operation of his ranch, but owing to the fact that his ranch would be unable, for at least two years, to produce crops sufficiently large to support his family, exclusive of other employment, he was obliged to move to Fresno, where he operated a ladies' tailoring establishment which he conducted for three years. Mr. McKinlay had learned the tailoring business in Scotland, where he had conducted a ladies' tailoring shop. During the three years spent in Fresno his crops had so increased in volume, and his bank account, too, that he was able to return to his ranch with the full assurance that Mother Earth would amply supply his wants. Since his return he has made extensive improvements. His home is large and attractive and contains eleven rooms, all elaborately furnished, having modern conveniences which include hot and cold water and electricity. In 1917, Mr. McKinlay purchased twenty-five acres more, which increases his ranch to sixty-five acres. It is a very



Mr. and Mrs. H. Pretzer

productive and profitable ranch and is planted to various kinds of grapes, including the Emperor, Muscat, Sultana and Mission varieties. From a tract of fifteen acres of Emperor grapes he received an average of \$1,000.

Mr. McKinlay is a practical and systematic rancher and believes in using up-to-date methods in viticulture, to which can be attributed his great success in this enterprise. On an average he employs three men the year around on his ranch. He has been a member of all the raisin associations since they were started. His entire ranch is operated by gasoline motor power.

The second marriage of Mr. McKinlay was solemnized in 1911, when he was united with Miss Effie A. Aitken, a native of Glasgow, Scotland.

HENRY PRETZER, SR.—A worthy representative of the foreign-born resident of the State of California, one who is loyal in his support of all enterprises that have for their object the betterment of conditions in general in the county of his adoption, is Henry Pretzer, Sr., a prosperous rancher on Blythe Avenue, where he owns an eighty-acre ranch. He was born in the province of Samara, Russia, November 18, 1859, a son of William and Katie (Helmuth) Pretzer, farmers in their native Russia. The mother died in 1917, and the father makes his home with his son.

Henry was the oldest of six children and was brought up on his father's farm, assisting with the work as soon as he was old enough. He was married there to Katie Webber, likewise a native of that section. In 1888, with his wife, he left the old country and came to America, settling for a year in Yankton County, S. D., but he found the winter too cold and they again took up their journey westward and arrived in Fresno County in 1889. Mr. Pretzer worked for two years, during which time he saved enough to buy a team and wagon, then he bought twenty acres of land near Kerman and set out vines, but found out that his water-right was not perfect, although he had paid for it in good faith. He then left the place and bought twenty acres on North Avenue, set it to vines, erected a house and outbuildings, and in two years sold out at a profit. He next was a grain-raiser near Kingsburg for a year, and, following that, leased a ranch on California Avenue and ran it seven years.

In 1903 he bought the place that is his present home, a tract of eighty acres on Blythe, between California and Church Avenues. This he has developed from its raw state to a fine alfalfa ranch. At first he had forty acres in vines, but when the price of raisins went so low that it was no longer profitable to raise grapes, he dug them out and put the ranch in alfalfa; he has a dairy of thirty cows, and also some hogs. He installed modern machinery, an electric motor for pumping, and has an excellent irrigating system. With Mr. Erie, he rents 1,280 acres at Helm, which was all in wheat in 1918, but owing to the excessively hot weather they got little more than one sack per acre; the year previous they planted to barley.

Seven children have been born to Mr. Pretzer and his wife: Henry, Jr., August and Gottlieb, are ranchers on North Avenue. Mary is Mrs. Schmidt, and lives at home; Lizzie is Mrs. J. Honigle; Mollie is Mrs. Helmuth; and Katie is Mrs. Erie and all live in Fresno County with their husbands who are ranchers. Mr. Pretzer is a member of the Methodist Church and in politics is a Democrat.

CLAUS HARDER.—A self-made man who has, by hard work, untiring efforts and thrifty habits, become a successful fruit-grower and vineyardist, is Claus Harder, whose post office is Del Rey, Fresno County. He is a native of Germany, being born on November 18, 1857, a son of Claus and Marie Harder, who were the parents of five children: One is deceased, three still reside in their native land, and Claus, the subject of this review, who immigrated to the United States in 1885, settling in California.

Like so many of our worthy citizens of foreign birth, Mr. Harder came to this country to better his condition financially and secure a ranch for him-

self, but having very limited means he at first accepted various kinds of ranch work by the day, but after following such a livelihood for some time he decided that such a process of accumulating money was too slow for him, so he rented a ranch and by so doing he forged ahead and by 1899 he had accumulated enough money to purchase a ranch consisting of twenty acres of improved land, the same being the property upon which he now resides.

By careful management and industrious efforts he continued to prosper and in 1906 he bought twenty acres of unimproved land across the road from his home place, which he improved with vines and fruit trees, and today this ranch is yielding a splendid crop.

In 1890, Claus Harder applied for his first papers of naturalization and in due time became a full fledged and patriotic citizen of the United States of America.

On December 14, 1900 in Hamburg, Mr. Harder was united in marriage with Miss Ortie Jokshas, from west Prussia and they journeyed back to Fresno County and this happy union has been blessed with five children: Gus; Marie; Elsie; Anna; and Henry. Religiously, the family are all members of the German Lutheran Church, and in politics Mr. Harder is a Republican. He also belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company and the Peach Growers, Inc.

BENDIKS TOBIASEN.—A well-educated gentleman, who comes from an excellent Danish family, but is heart and soul an American, loyal to the Administration of the United States, and who gave the most intelligent support to all war work making for the ultimate victory of Yankee colors, is Bendiks Tobiassen, usually called Ben. He owns a fine tract in the Ross School District, two and a half miles south of Parlier, where he has been for sixteen years, although he has claimed residence in Fresno County a couple of years longer.

Born at Ribe, in Denmark, on February 27, 1874, he is the son of Tobias Hansen, who owned a good-sized farm in Denmark and was well and widely respected. The father was born, lived and died in Ribe, and there he married Kirsten Sorensen, who is still living in that neighborhood, at the age of seventy-eight years. There were ten children, and only two came to California. One is Bendiks, who was the fifth eldest, and the other is the daughter, Margretha, who dwells near her brother, and who is the wife of Peter Tomsen.

Bendiks attended the public schools of Denmark, at the same time that he was preparing for confirmation in the Lutheran Church, to which his family still belong; but in addition, he studied at the Latin School at Ribe for three and a half years, and successfully passed all the preliminary examinations. He had read of California, however, and had corresponded with friends in Fresno County; and when Mr. James Andersen (whose life-story is related elsewhere) revisited Denmark, Ben resolved to accompany him to the New World. Sailing on the American Line by the steamship St. Louis, he landed in New York about the first of May, 1900; and on the sixth of that month reached Selma.

For a couple of years he worked out on farms in this vicinity, and he then bought twenty acres, once a stubble field, but which came to present an entirely different appearance under his intelligent attention. In 1903 he was married to Miss Inger Paulsen, who was born in the same place in Denmark, and was the daughter of Paul Paulsen of Ribe. Her mother had been Meta Maria Sorensen before her marriage, and she is still living in Denmark.

A member of the Danish Lutheran Church at Selma, Mr. Tobiassen is treasurer of the congregation, and is active in church work. He belongs to both the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Raisin Growers' Association, and as a practical vineyardist delights in advancing California

husbandry. American by adoption, he outdistances many in patriotism of the pure and unadulterated sort; and a Republican in respect to party preferences, he knows no party politics when it comes to supporting a Democratic administration in time of war, or when matters of local improvement and social uplift are up for discussion and support, and need unselfish and altruistic backing.

Mr. and Mrs. Tobiasen are the parents of four children: Tobias, Marius, Oscar, and Christian. They are held in high esteem in the community.

HANS A. NIELSEN.—A successful vineyardist, and one of the most reliable and substantial residents of his section of the county, southwest of Sanger, is H. A. Nielsen, a native of Denmark, where he was born in Grenaa, June 30, 1862, a son of N. P. and Catherina Nielsen, who were the parents of five boys. Mr. and Mrs. N. P. Nielsen and three sons died in Denmark.

H. A. Nielsen, the subject of this review, and his brother Christ immigrated to the United States and both are living, H. A. in Fresno County and Christ, in Oakland. It was in 1888 that H. A. Nielsen left his native land for America, and after his arrival came to California locating in Fresno County, where in time he purchased twenty acres of land which he disposed of later in order to buy his present ranch, where he has lived continuously since 1901. It consists of twenty acres situated in Section 2, of the southeast one quarter and northeast one quarter, Section 33, Township 14, Range 20, and is a well cultivated and productive ranch devoted principally to vines, three acres being devoted to Thompson's seedless grapes, ten acres to muscats, while the remainder is given to vegetables, grain and alfalfa. On an average Mr. Nielsen's Thompson's seedless grapes yield two tons to an acre, while from ten acres of muscat vines, eleven tons were raised. By hard work and careful management he has made of his property a productive ranch and a profitable investment.

Like many another foreign-born citizen, he could not speak English when he arrived, but possessed with that self-confidence and determination to succeed, which are so characteristic of the men of his native land, Mr. Nielsen soon learned enough English, by the close study of men and their ways, so that he could transact business affairs.

On November 29, 1891, in Fresno County, H. A. Nielsen was united in marriage with Miss Anna Jonsen, a native of the same place in Denmark, born June 23, 1866, and of this union three children were born, two of whom are living: Christina, born October 25, 1892, and Agnes, born July 1, 1896. Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen are members of the Danish Lutheran Church and for several years he has served as a trustee of the Bethel School District. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and the Peach Growers, Inc., and supports all measures for the upbuilding of the County.

HARRY C. MORGAN.—A viticulturist of established reputation who has seen much of our great country and is interested, as a natural result, in its history, and especially in the preservation of Fresno County and other California annals, and whose studies and work in general are shared by an excellent and gifted wife, is Harry C. Morgan, the son of P. M. Morgan whose interesting and highly-suggestive sketch also has place in this volume. Harry C. was born at Sedgwick City, Kans., on February 13, 1871, the first white male child to claim Harvey County as its place of birth, and was educated at the public schools of that locality, finishing at the Great Bend Normal, from which he graduated in 1891.

He then immediately entered the service of the Santa Fe Railroad, going into its shops as a boiler-maker apprentice, and completing the trade at Newton, Kans. He worked at his trade in various parts of the United States, and traveled widely in the employ of many railways, going as far east as Ohio and west to San Bernardino, where he became assistant foreman. In 1901 he returned east in railroad work. Six years later, or soon after his

father had located in California, he returned to the Coast and assisted the former to improve the ranch he had acquired. They set the balance out to vines, and he now has a vineyard in splendid bearing condition, and has become a man of affairs in the community in which he has cast his lot. A staunch Republican, he has been a trustee of the Garfield school district for several years; and he is not only a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, but is fruit inspector from Belmont Avenue to the northern line of the county for Fresno County.

At Nickerson, Kans., Mr. Morgan was married to Miss Jennie Weigle, a noble woman who has proven a most devoted and helpful wife. She was born in West Virginia, the daughter of J. M. Weigle, a native of Virginia, who came to Kansas with his family, and who also now resides in the Garfield district in Fresno County. Three children have blessed their union: Vera, a graduate of the Clovis High School and Fresno State Normal, was a teacher but now the wife of Roy E. Pack of Clovis; Claude S., and Virginia. Mrs. Morgan and her daughter, Vera, are members of the Order of the Eastern Star of Clovis, and the family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where Mr. Morgan was for several years a member of the official board and now Mrs. Morgan is a member. Mrs. Morgan is also president of the Garfield Auxiliary of the Fresno Chapter of the Red Cross. Mr. Morgan was made a Mason at the Nickerson Lodge, No. 346, F. & A. M., and is a charter member of Clovis Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M.

Travel where you will, it would be hard to find, even among the proud native sons and daughters of the state, a more representative California family, whose hospitality is unbounded, and whose hearts and hands never weary in advancing every good work making for the uplift of the neighborhood, the community, the county, the state and the nation.

WILLIAM P. WICKLIFFE.—One of the leading and successful fruit-growers of the Parlier district, Fresno County, is W. P. Wickliffe, who has made his own way in the world and won a name and place for himself among the progressive citizens of the county. He was born in Missouri, November 22, 1881, the son of Samuel M. and Naomi C. Wickliffe, parents of four children, three of whom are living, namely: Asa A., a machinist for a large mining company in Arizona; William P., of this review; and Henry S., a rancher. The family of Mr. and Mrs. Wickliffe went from Missouri to Oregon in the spring of 1883, remained there for about six years, then moved to Idaho, where two years were spent, but in the fall of 1891 they decided that the best opportunities awaited them in California and they came west and spent two years in Stanislaus County, and three years in Calaveras County, then settled in Fresno County in the fall of 1896.

Their son W. P. had the experience of living in various parts of the country until settling in Fresno County, and he received his education and training for his life work in this state, thereby having the western experience and broad views of life as shown by his success in whatever he has undertaken. He began as a ranch hand, working by the month; he saved his earnings and soon was able to invest in some land of his own, purchasing, in 1905, forty acres of his present place, which at that time was virgin soil. Through hard work and persistent and intelligent efforts he has transformed the property into one of the most valuable orchards and vineyards in the entire section. So well did he succeed that in 1914 he added thirty acres more to his holdings, which he partly improved and sold at a profit. Every bit of improvements seen on his well-kept ranch has been done by himself—a modern house, good outbuildings, dry sheds and all the equipments on the place show a master hand in management and arrangement. In 1919 his yield of fruit from his ranch of thirty-four acres of vines was seventy tons of raisins, besides his peaches, of which he has ten acres. These he set out in 1905 and 1906, and since then he has had but little trouble with the spider



Anna Nickliff



Mr Nickliff

that infests the trees, giving as his opinion that the care taken of the trees is the reason. Since 1912 he has never known a shortage of the crop, all due to his scientific cultivation and care of the orchard. In June, 1919, he bought forty acres of land in Tulare County, near Seville; twenty acres of it is in vines and he is rapidly setting out the balance to the same.

In 1904, Mr. Wickliffe and Miss Anna Jensen, daughter of Christian and Dorothy Jensen, were united in marriage, and of this union three children have been born: Margaret D. M.; Esther M.; and Eunice M. Mrs. Wickliffe enjoys with her husband the good will and esteem of a large circle of friends and they are leaders in their community. The family attends the Baptist Church of Parlier.

When it is taken into consideration that Mr. Wickliffe began at the bottom round of the ladder and by persistent efforts, supplemented by good management and hard work, has reached the position he now occupies in the county, it will be seen that others may well follow his example, for the possibilities are just beginning to open to the home-maker in the county. Mr. Wickliffe is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and of the California Associated Raisin Company. He is also a supporter of all movements for the betterment of social and moral conditions in the county, and is always found ready "to do his bit" whenever called upon.

FIRST NATIONAL BANK AND SELMA SAVINGS BANK.—

Selma's growth and progress have been both phenomenal and substantial, and her banking institutions attest the importance of her place in the financial world. The forerunner of the First National Bank of Selma, the oldest as well as the leading institution of its kind in the place, was the Bank of Selma, which was organized in 1887 as a state bank, with a capitalization of \$20,000, which was later increased out of the profits to \$50,000, the officers of the First National Bank at Fresno being among its first projectors and stockholders. Among these, Mr. J. M. Braley of Fresno, then president of the First National Bank of Fresno, became the manager of the Bank of Selma. Other interested parties in the enterprise were O. J. Woodward, the present president of the First National Bank of Fresno; Mr. D. S. Snodgrass, now deceased; John G. Arrants of Selma, also deceased, who became its first president; and T. B. Matthews, and the bank's present president, Major Marion Sides of Selma, who went in as stockholders. On June 22, 1905, the Selma Savings Bank was organized as an allied interest.

These two banks are allied under the Federal and state laws, both using the same banking office and having the same officers, except that the president and vice-president of each exchange places. They have a combined working capital of \$240,000, combined deposits of \$1,200,000, and combined resources of \$1,500,000.

The old bank of Selma for many years did business across the street in the building and offices now occupied by the Selma Land Company. In 1900, when the old bank building with its graceful Mission lines was completed, it was nationalized under the title of The First National Bank of Selma, with a capitalization of \$100,000, the result of profits.

The city's finances, as well as those of these banks, are on a firm basis. Despite the \$50,000 put into sundry improvements, \$125,000 for schools, and large sums for the city water and parks, the city has a very small outstanding debt. Selma has an assessed valuation of over \$1,000,000, and there are only \$30,000 outstanding in bonded debts. In June, 1917, the First National Bank purchased the City of Selma's park bonds, amounting to \$10,700, at par. These bonds draw annual interest at five per cent.

When the stockholders of these banks met in the month of January, 1918, to consider business affairs and to elect officers for the ensuing year, they found the business of the past year to have been very satisfactory. Both banks made a nice gain over the preceding year, and for the first time in their

history passed the million-dollar mark; and at the annual stockholders' and directors' meeting in January, 1919, the stockholders expressed their approval of the management by reelecting all the officers. They are: M. Sides, president First National Bank and vice-president of Selma Savings Bank; M. Vincent, vice-president First National Bank and president of Selma Savings Bank; W. C. Freeland, cashier; G. W. Glines, first assistant cashier; W. J. Johnson, second assistant cashier.

Mr. W. H. Lemmon, who was second assistant cashier in 1917, enlisted in the Liberty army and entered the Paymaster's Department at the Presidio, San Francisco, Cal. Upon receiving his honorable discharge, he returned to Selma and resumed his duties in the bank. On the 1st of July, 1919, he became cashier and manager of the First National Bank of Caruthers, in which institution several of the officers of the Selma banks are interested as stockholders.

J. C. HANSEN.—Few men are better known in Fresno County or more deservedly popular in both commercial and social circles here than J. C. Hansen, the wide-awake, courteous and attentive proprietor of The Toggery, Selma's most important headquarters for men's and boys' attire. A native son, Mr. Hansen was born in Fresno County about five miles north of Selma on October 20, 1890, the son of Thomas Hansen, the well-to-do farmer of the county, who first came to California in 1878 and settled in Fresno County three years later. He is the third son and child of a family of four children, one of the family being a girl; and his boyhood and youth were as happy as that of the typical Californian.

Growing up on his father's ranch, young Hansen attended the district school and also the grammar school in the Monroe School district; then he entered the Selma High School, from which he was graduated with the Class of '09. On leaving school, he lost no time in getting into the real struggle of life; and engaging with the Selma Land Co., for three years he acted as its Secretary.

Next he formed a partnership with T. E. Rasmussen of Selma under the firm name of The Toggery, opening shop at 2033 Second Street, in the George B. Otis Block. This establishment was originally started by L. J. Price and Frank Dusy of Selma, and they sold out to H. J. Jacobson, who conducted the business for eight years. When Jacobson retired, Rasmussen succeeded him, and it was when he was ready to dispose of one-half of his interest that Mr. Hansen became his partner.

In January, 1918, the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Hansen buying out Rasmussen; and since then the former has been the sole proprietor, the store being known as one of Selma's most reliable concerns. What makes it so important, aside from the principles and methods obtaining there, is the fact that it is the only exclusively clothing, gent's furnishing and merchant tailoring establishment in Selma. Mr. Hansen carries the best goods obtainable, and courteous and careful attention is guaranteed every customer.

Mr. Hansen was married to Miss Mabel Schultz, an accomplished and attractive belle of Selma, and the couple participate, as favorites, in the social life of the progressive town.

EVAN DOYLE PORTER.—One of the successful and progressive men in Fresno's colony of viticulture, Evan Doyle Porter has found this branch of land cultivation a most interesting study, as well as a profitable one. Born in Monmouth, Ill., in 1876, of Scotch-Irish descent, he is a son of J. K. and Mary (Chandler) Porter, both pioneers of the state of Illinois. Of the three children born to his parents, Evan D. Porter is the only one of the family making his home in California. He received his early training in Monmouth, Ill., and from 1886 to 1893 lived in Denver, Colo., where he attended the public schools. In 1893 he returned to Monmouth and there attended the Monmouth Business College.

After graduation he entered the offices of the Monmouth Manufacturing Company, makers of sewer pipe, and remained four years, at the end of that period he acted as assistant to the superintendent of the factory for one year, then became superintendent and held that position for six years, the concern being one of the largest of its kind in the Middle West, manufacturing fire-brick, flue lining, drain tile and sewer-pipe. While with this concern he took a course in mechanical engineering in the International Correspondence Schools, and became qualified to make the drawings needed in the factory.

Resigning from his position as superintendent, Mr. Porter came to Colorado and there bought an interest in the Brick and Tile Works at La Junta, and devoted the next two years to the management of the plant. From there he came to California, in 1908, and located in Fresno for a time, then went to San Francisco, and for three months was with the Bay Shore Brick Company there. He then accepted a position as superintendent of the Fresno Brick and Tile Company and when the new plant was built he made the drawings and had charge of its construction.

At the end of three years Mr. Porter decided to turn his attention to the development of land; hence, resigning his position, he went to San Luis Obispo County, where he homesteaded 160 acres on Carisa Plains, proved up on his property, and now rents it to tenants. In 1913 he returned to Fresno County, and purchased forty acres on Las Palmas Avenue, in Nevada Colony, and engaged in viticulture. Being intensely interested in his ranching enterprise, he has taken a correspondence course in viticulture in the University of California. In February, 1918, he sold his ranch at a good profit and bought his present property on Belmont Avenue, a forty-acre ranch devoted to muscats, malagas, and Thompsons, an exceptionally fine property which he is developing to even greater possibilities.

The marriage of Mr. Porter occurred in Monmouth, Ill., uniting him with Inez Bates, and they have one child, Dorothy.

OSCAR E. PRICE.—It has been thought by a few that gold is picked up from the ground in California, and in years that are history many flocked to the Golden State to pick it up. They met with varying successes and failures. It has been demonstrated by a few choice spirits that gold may still be picked up here, though not from quartz; that the soil contains elements that will produce gold in proportion to the amount of intelligence and persistent work a man puts into its cultivation. Hence this story of Mr. Price.

Mr. Price was born in Sumner County, Tenn., November 10, 1879, and Tennessee is responsible for a good many mighty good men. His parents were Nim F. and Laura (Crabb) Price, to whom eight children were born. Of these seven are living: Oscar E.; Mattie, now Mrs. Watson; Millie, now Mrs. W. Colley of Fresno County; E. T., also in Fresno County; Julius A. who served in Bakery Company, No. 308, A. E. F., with the army of occupation; Ophelia, now Mrs. Collins; and Corrina, now Mrs. Morris. Ernest is deceased.

Oscar E. grew up in his native state, receiving a common school education. In January, 1901, he came to California, his total cash footing up the sum of five dollars. This, however, did not by any means represent his entire capital, for while the former years went by he developed a strength of mind and body that served well his determination. For eight years he worked at day's wages, and by the exercise of thrift he found himself possessed of enough cash to make a considerable payment on the purchase of his forty-acre ranch. There were seventeen acres improved, and he shortly after sold ten acres, believing that thirty acres well cared for would be better, and he also lightened his burden of debt. This sale enabled him to further improve his land and beautify his place by building a home with all the

modern conveniences, at a cost of thirty-three hundred dollars. He has been offered and refused \$30,000 for his place.

On March 5, 1903, Mr. Price and Miss Alice DaMant were married. She was born in England and was brought to California by her mother, Elizabeth DaMant, when twelve years of age, to join the husband and father, James DaMant, at Orosi, where he was a minister in the Baptist Church. Mrs. Price completed her education in the schools at Sanger and after her marriage devoted her time to assisting her husband in developing their ranch, and at the same time rearing her little family. They have had four children, three of them now living, Ernest, Melba and Arthur P. The family belongs to the Baptist Church and supports the charities of the church liberally.

The success achieved by Mr. Price is due to an unswerving attention to business, and to a stick-to-ativeness that is the answer to the question, "How be a success in any undertaking?" Because of his fidelity and loyalty to his calling, Mr. Price has been able to pick up the gold from California's soil to an extent that should be highly gratifying to himself. In order to have a place to spend the summer months, Mr. Price bought a summer home at Palo Alto, Cal., in which town Mrs. Price's parents reside.

REV. CORNELIUS E. KLIEWER.—When we meet a man, in this busy world of today, who has given his time and money unstintedly to the betterment of mankind, we feel that no praise can be too great for such an example of unselfish benevolence. Rev. Cornelius E. Kliewer, founder of Emanuel German Baptist Church in Fresno, lives solely to help his fellow men, and his unusual success as a missionary is due to the sincerity and understanding sympathy shown in his work in the Master's vineyard. Born in Warsaw, Poland, May 25, 1856, he received his education in private schools of his native land. In 1876 he came to America, and six months later declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States. He was ordained at Hillsboro, Kans., in 1893, in the German Baptist Church. His first charge was at Newton, Kans., where he erected a church and served for two years. In 1898 he came to Stafford, Ore., remained there six months, and thence went to Salem, Ore., where he remained four years; in these places, as elsewhere, his missionary duties were carried on with a zeal which has never failed to meet with success. Rev. Kliewer then went to Tacoma, Wash., and served in that city five years, building the church there and leaving it free of debt. He also had a preaching station at Seattle, and did missionary work in the northern metropolis.

In 1903, Rev. Kliewer came to California, his first charge in the state being at Anaheim, Orange County, where he was pastor three years. This concluded his fourteen years of service as a missionary of the Baptist Home Missionary Society, and he retired from active church work for a time, and located in Long Beach, where he engaged in buying, selling and building, meeting with success, and never failing to devote much time to church work, though not having a public charge.

After several years spent in quietly doing the work which came to hand, Rev. Kliewer again took up his public duties. In 1907 he came to Fresno and here he built the Emanuel German Baptist Church, at 2203 Kirk Avenue, at a cost of \$2,000, taking his own money for the immediate building of the church, which is now free of debt, the pastor having donated \$600 as his share of the cost of the edifice. The church has 47 communicants, with about 150 members, including the children, for whom he has organized a Young People's Society with 30 members; and his wife, who has been of great help to the pastor in his life work and leads the choir in the church, has recently organized the Ladies' Aid Society. She has accomplished much noble work, having been especially active in Tacoma, and in Salem, Ore., as well as, at present, in Fresno. Rev. Kliewer organized the Mission Sunday School here and later turned that work over to the German Methodist Church. He uses his own automobile in doing missionary work, and in tak-



Mr and Mrs E. E. Klever.

ing the sick to hospitals; he also does missionary work in the Russian colony on the west side. His church contributes to all public charities, and is prominent in all missionary work in the city. Rev. Kliever receives no salary for his services, donating his time and money for the good cause. He is a member of the Ministerial Union of the San Joaquin Baptist Conference of Northern California, and helped to organize the Pacific Baptist Conference on the Coast, and is also a member of the general ministerial union in Fresno. He takes an active part in revival meetings in Fresno and can always be found at hand when the spiritual uplift of the community is being undertaken, as well as when the material needs of unfortunate humanity are at stake.

When not busy with church and missionary duties, Rev. Kliever has helped in the upbuilding of Fresno, buying lots and improving same for sale, and has met with success in his business ventures.

Rev. Kliever was united in marriage, at Bethany, Ore., December 17, 1893, with Miss Mary Walter, a native of Germany, and his Christian work has been upheld by her sympathy and devotion to the cause. Three children have blessed their union: Walter, who died when four months old; Lorena, wife of Alex Ramer of Fresno; and Elmer, attending school. Rev. Kliever has five sons by a former marriage: Henry; Herbert; Cornelius; Edward; and Harry.

Rev. Kliever took a firm and uncompromising stand against the liquor traffic, from the early stages of the fight against alcohol. He was the only minister among the German speaking contingent in Fresno, who openly took part in public demonstrations against the saloon. He has been fighting rum ever since he was converted, at Hillsboro, Kans., when he joined the Baptist denomination. At times his uncompromising stand has made him enemies, but all true Christians will approve.

CARL W. CHRISTENSEN.—Since 1912, when the genial cashier of the allied banks, the Selma National Bank and Farmers Savings Bank of Selma, Carl W. Christensen, came to the favored section of Fresno County known as "The Home of the Peach," he has forged rapidly to the front among the business men of prominence in Selma and vicinity. Congenial, bright, well-informed and experienced in his line of work, he is known in the business world as a rapid and accurate cashier and an excellent judge of values.

Of Danish parentage, his father, J. P., and mother, M. (Hornbeck) Christensen, who reside in Selma, were born in Denmark. Carl W. was born at Racine, Wis., December 26, 1877, and was eleven years of age when his parents removed to Turner County, S. D., where he grew up on a South Dakota farm. He received his primary education in the Racine and Turner County schools. Of studious habits, by means of self-study and the assistance of a private tutor, he acquired an excellent education, and at nineteen years of age passed the teacher's examination. He taught school four years in Turner County, S. D., then an opening occurring in the bank of Viborg, Turner County, he accepted a clerkship in what is now the First National Bank of Viborg, remaining with the bank eleven years, being cashier during the last four years. In 1912 he came to California to take his present position, as the successor of Mr. W. E. Street. He helped reorganize the old Farmers Bank of Selma and takes an active interest in the business of the allied banks, of which he is one of the directors.

He married Miss Etta M. Nielsen, of San Jose, Cal., and they are the parents of three children: Warren N., Roger W., and Alan D. Mr. Christensen is an acquisition to Selma's social circle as he is to its business world. While of a refined and retiring temperament, he is a young man of excellent musical attainments, coming honestly by his musical genius, as C. C. Krogh, the well known violinist and composer of Denmark of the century just ended, was his grandfather. While a young man at Viborg, S. D., he attained celebrity as a cornetist and bandmaster, organizing four well known bands of

which he was leader. He became one of the foremost bandmasters in southeastern South Dakota, playing at the state fairs, and often being called upon to play during the state capital campaign as well as in the campaigns of ex-Senator Crawford of South Dakota.

Mr. Christensen is the owner of eighty acres near Selma, planted to Thompson seedless and muscat grapes, and peaches, all in full bearing. In 1913 he built his residence in Selma, which is located on Logan Street. Mr. and Mrs. Christensen are active members of the First Baptist Church of Selma. Mr. Christensen takes an active interest in the financial interests of the church, as well as in the Sunday School, of which he is superintendent.

Taking a pardonable pride in the prosperity and financial standing of his community, he rendered valuable service in the various drives connected with the activities of the war just ended. It is needless to say that in its Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., and other charities, as well as in the Liberty Loans and the recent Victory Loan, Selma went promptly "over the top," with a considerable percentage of surplus to her great credit.

J. B. CROCKER.—Of New England birth and endowed with the characteristics that are supposed to belong especially to people of that section of the United States, i. e., frugality, thrift, and unceasing activity, J. B. Crocker is well known as a leading horticulturist of the Selma district, his intelligence and kindly disposition making him a general favorite in the community in which he lives. He was born at Newburyport, Mass., thirty-five miles northeast of Boston, February 5, 1857.

He is the son of John Crocker, a ship carpenter and a native of Nova Scotia, and Sarah (Holmes) Crocker. His father died at Newburyport, Mass., in 1869, at the age of seventy-four, when J. B. was a lad of twelve. His mother had seven children by her first husband, the father of J. B. She married a second time and had a son by her second marriage. She attained the unusual age of eighty-eight before her demise in Massachusetts, in 1916.

A half orphan at twelve, Mr. Crocker at that time began to depend upon his own exertions for a livelihood, removing from the place of his birth to Maine, where he worked on a farm for four years. He then went to work in a cotton factory at Great Falls, N. H., remaining there six or eight months, until the panic of 1874 caused the cotton factories to close down. Afterwards he returned to farm work, which he continued until 1882, then went to work at the marble works at Rutland, Vt. From thence he went to Iowa, where he worked as a farm hand in O'Brien County. In 1886 he came to California, where he worked on a farm near Fresno. In 1889 he went to Kingsburg and made his first purchase in the Kingsburg Colony, three miles east and one mile south of his present place.

In 1882 he was married to Miss Mary H. Wildermuth. Of the four children born of their union, the three sons were United States volunteers in the recent world conflict. Clark W., a graduate of the Selma high school and Stanford University, was in the aviation corps at Berkeley; Percy S., also a Selma high school graduate, was a senior in the Leland Stanford University, pursuing the geological and mining engineer's course, when he enlisted for service in the World War; Ernest H., a senior in the Selma high school at the time of his enlistment; and Celia F., a graduate in the Class of 1918, is now pursuing a post-graduate course.

In 1907, Mr. Crocker sold his Kingsburg Colony ranch and purchased his present home place of twenty acres, three miles east of Selma on the Canal School Reservation. He has always been particularly interested in education and in 1915 was elected a member of the board of trustees of the Selma high school, a school that ranks among the very best high schools in the State of California.

A true American and an ardent patriot, Mr. Crocker is held in the highest esteem. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen. He is a fine example

of the California rancher who denies himself much in order to properly rear and educate his children. They are all high school and some are university graduates, while his three sons bear the distinction of having rendered excellent service to their country during the recent war. Percy S. served thirteen months in France, while Ernest H. was in the Coast Artillery in France. They have their honorable discharges, and came home safe and sound.

THE SELMA IRRIGATOR.—An important factor in the development and growth of the enterprising community of Selma, Cal., is the semi-weekly, eight-page newspaper, known as *The Selma Irrigator*, owned and edited by J. J. Vanderburgh.

The first edition of the *Irrigator* appeared in 1886, when the paper was founded by W. T. Lyon, who later became associated with W. L. Chappell, and under the firm name of Chappell & Lyon the *Irrigator* continued to be published for several years, in both daily and weekly editions.

In 1892, J. J. Vanderburgh, who at that time was a public school teacher, purchased the interest of W. L. Chappell, and subsequently engaged in the publishing of the *Irrigator* under the firm name of Lyon & Vanderburgh from 1892 to 1897, when Mr. Vanderburgh became the sole owner of the business. The business soon began to expand under the efficient management of Mr. Vanderburgh, and in course of time he sold the little old frame building, which had been the home of the *Irrigator* for a number of years, and purchased a block consisting of twelve lots, across the street, and on a portion of this property he built, in 1906, the present new and commodious *Irrigator* Building, a two-story-and-basement brick block, 30x60 feet in size. The first floor contains a large office and editorial room, a large room for the accommodation of the job-printing department, which contains three electrically operated up-to-date presses, and one large newspaper press and Omaha folder. The linotype machine used by the *Irrigator* was shipped through the Panama Canal, and is one of the first two machines of its kind to pass through the canal. It is very complete, having three magazines and nine faces of type, and is regarded as one of the best linotyping machines on the Pacific Coast. The stereotyping room is situated away from the building to lessen the fire hazard. The basement of the *Irrigator* Building is used as a dining hall and banquet room, having accommodations for one hundred twenty persons, and this room has often been the scene of many enjoyable banquets. A public hall is located in the second story of the building and is used as lodge rooms for various fraternal organizations, also as the church home of the Christian Science Society, of Selma. The *Irrigator* Building is a great credit to the up-to-date city of Selma, "The Home of the Peach," and will be a standing monument to the enterprise and business sagacity of its builder and owner, J. J. Vanderburgh.

The Selma *Irrigator* has been a potent factor in the development of this prosperous community and has justly earned for itself an important place in the front rank of journals of its size in Central California. It pursues a constructive policy in regard to all that makes for the good of the community, educationally, religiously, commercially, and agriculturally; while it is always the uncompromising foe of evil, whether it presents itself boldly, or in some veiled and alluring form. Mr. Vanderburgh is ably assisted in the editorial department by his talented wife.

ELMER THOMAS WALL.—Among the leading raisin-growers in the Selma section, Mr. Elmer Thomas Wall stands prominently forth for his skill and success as a viticulturist. He is an example of a hard-working man endowed with firmness of character and determination of purpose, qualities that bespeak the ability and energy which have caused him to attain his well merited success.

A native of Missouri, he was born in Johnson County, May 2, 1872, and is the son of Lieut. James M. and Nancy B. (Gray) Wall. His father was

the owner of an 800-acre stock farm in Missouri and was a large raiser of mules, horses and beef cattle. A native of North Carolina, he served with distinction as lieutenant during the Civil War, on the Confederate side, was body-guard of General Price, and was twice wounded during his time of service. In 1888 he disposed of his business interests in Missouri and came to California on account of his wife's health, where, four years later, in 1892, he died. His wife, who survived him, is living in Fresno. Of the five children of the parental home, three are living. Benjamin F., who settled near Selma, died twelve years ago, leaving two children, Lois and Ethel by name. A daughter, Ona B., single, died in California. The living children are: Sydney Jackson, a fruit-buyer residing in Fresno; Elmer Thomas; and Erna Ethel, wife of A. M. Haldeman, who is employed on the Thomas Republican and owns a twenty-acre ranch adjoining Elmer Thomas' place.

Elmer Thomas received his education in the public and high school at Windsor, Mo. A lad sixteen years of age when he came with his parents to California, in 1888, he engaged with his father in the fruit-growing business. He purchased forty acres southeast of Fresno, near Malaga, which he improved and afterwards sold. He bought his present place in 1916.

He chose as his life partner Miss Addie J. Barr, to whom he was united in 1894. She is the daughter of Thomas A. Barr, and is a sister of Dr. W. T. Barr of Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Wall are the parents of three bright and interesting children: Gladys, a graduate of the Fresno high school, now sophomore in Redlands University; Thelma, attending the Selma high school; and Warden, a student in the grammar school.

Mr. Wall has always taken a lively interest in educational work and was school trustee for fifteen years at Malaga. He has also served as juryman. While he is a Democrat politically, he votes for the man best fitted for the position, regardless of party. Mr. Wall and his family are prominent members of the Baptist Church of Selma. Mr. Wall is greatly interested in all that advances his community, and he and his family are highly respected.

E. J. MONCRIEF.—Among Parlier's aggressively energetic and successful young business men is E. J. Moncrief, dealer in hay, grain, oils and greases, wood, and ice. He was born at Nevada, Mo., November 29, 1888, and is the son of C. E. Moncrief, formerly of Sanger, now living with his son at Parlier.

The father, C. E. Moncrief, was born at Madison, Ind., November 19, 1863, and lived in his native state until the age of fifteen. He then accompanied his parents, William and Cynthia (Montgomery) Moncrief, to Vernon County, Mo., where they settled upon a farm and where the son grew to manhood. He was married in 1884, became a farmer and the owner of a 160-acre farm. He brought up a family of three children, namely: Daisy, wife of Mr. Popney, residing at Parlier; E. J., and R. E., the latter residing in Fresno. He sold his Missouri farm in 1904, and came to California, settling first at Oakland. In 1908 he came to Reedley. He is the owner of a ten-acre ranch at Reedley and a twenty-acre ranch at Kingsburg. In politics he is a Republican, and he and his good wife were members of the Baptist Church. Since the death of his wife, in the fall of 1917, he has made his home with his son, E. J., at Parlier.

E. J. Moncrief was sixteen years old when his parents settled at Rodeo, Cal., in 1904, and he was in the employ of the powder company for twenty-seven months, going thence to the oil fields at Maricopa, where he worked for the Sunset Monarch Oil Company, one of the J. D. Spreckels interests, until the spring of 1912, having charge of the fishing tool department and the storehouse on the Sunset Monarch property. During this time he visited his old Missouri home twice—in 1907 and in 1908—the latter year returning with his bride, who before her marriage was Miss Olive Hogge of Nevada, Mo., one of his schoolmates.



Olef Hanson

In June, 1912, Mr. Moncrief removed to Parlier and engaged in his present line of business on a much smaller scale. The business has grown and prospered beyond the most sanguine expectations. Aside from being the public weighmaster, Mr. Moncrief gets ice from the Central California Ice Company of Fresno and distributes it to his customers in Parlier and vicinity.

He has built a cozy bungalow on his four acres east of and adjoining Parlier, where he resides with his wife and children, Charlie and Oliver.

In his fraternal relations Mr. Moncrief is a member of the W. O. W. He is an enterprising and substantial citizen, justly entitled to the esteem and respect accorded him, and the family is highly regarded at Parlier, Sanger, Maricopa, and other places where they have lived.

OLOF HANSON.—The cultivation of a barren piece of land into thriving orchards and vineyards can rightfully be called a factor in the development of the county's resources, and Olof Hanson is numbered among the successful fruit and raisin growers of Fresno County, who have thus added to its development and have proven substantial and worthy citizens of the commonwealth. A native of Sweden, he was born at Soderham, August 20, 1859. Mr. Hanson is the son of John and Kare Hanson, both natives of that country, whose family consisted of eight children. In 1881 they and their offspring immigrated to the United States, locating, after their arrival in the new country, in Kansas. There Olof remained for nine years, working at home with his father on his farm.

Olof Hanson and two brothers made a trip to California in 1890, but Olof was the only one to stay here, and in the following spring he purchased his present home place, a ranch of eighty acres in the Wahtoke district, Fresno County. The land at that time was mostly in a state of wilderness—hog-wallow and grain fields. He now has a fertile, well cultivated fruit ranch, yielding large returns to the owner. Mr. Hanson cultivates and raises figs, prunes, peaches, and grapes, specializing in the Thompson Seedless, Muscats, and Sultana varieties. An experienced and intelligent rancher, he has met with success in his chosen vocation, and commands the respect and confidence of the community in which he has made his home for so many years. He has been a stanch advocate of cooperation among fruit growers and is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

J. H. BREWER.—A self-made man, an especially good judge of live stock, and one of Selma's most successful business men, is J. H. Brewer, senior member of the Selma Meat Company. He was born in Linn County, Mo., on July 15, 1877, the son of William Jefferson Brewer, who was a large farmer and stockman there, and a native of Illinois. He fought in the Union Army and was discharged with an honorable record, which means more than ever today; and when he died, in 1913, he had rounded out sixty-eight years. Mrs. Brewer was Amanda Baber before her marriage, and she came from Missouri, her native state, where she is still living, honored by many, and in particular beloved by her four sons and three daughters, among whom the subject of this interesting sketch is the fifth in the order of birth.

J. H. Brewer's early life was spent in working on his father's stock-farm, and in attending the public schools of the neighborhood. Growing up on a Missouri farm, he continued to till the land for years, and in that state was married to Miss Alice Streets, the daughter of William and Mantia Streets, esteemed residents of the same county. He began butchering at twenty-one, and for a year and a half was in partnership in the little town of Bucklin. In 1902, however, having heard of the greater opportunities here, he disposed of his Missouri interests and came west to California. For a couple of years he worked around in the stock business, buying, selling and feeding; and then, in partnership with his brother, A. T. Brewer of the Kingsburg Market, in 1905 they started a meat business at Sanger. For four years

they managed this enterprise and then, being attracted to the Eschol district, they moved there and bought 220 acres. For another four years they ran a genuine country market. Then the two brothers came to Selma and bought the Selma Meat Company, after that owned by J. H. and A. T. Brewer; and when A. T. sold out, in 1917, Mr. A. C. Casner became the owner of a half interest. They have three delivery autos and make a specialty of their own farm and meat products.

Mr. Brewer, who certainly is a hustler and one who attends strictly to business, attends personally to the buying and the outside work, superintends the slaughtering and makes of it the cornerstone of the market's success. He owns 160 acres four and a half miles south of Selma, and 80 acres two miles farther south. Mr. Brewer is a popular member of the Woodmen of the World at Selma, and he never fails to rally to the support of his country or community.

WILLIAM J. POSSONS.—A brilliant Easterner who made a distinguished place for himself in industrial, commercial, and financial circles, thereby ruining his health by overapplication to work and duty, and who found in California's wonderful climate a temporary relief, was William J. Possons, who died in April, 1917, leaving a widow who, with the aid of her gifted son, has shown marked ability and achieved success in the management of his estate. He was born at Ballston Spa, N. Y., November 5, 1855, and reared there until he was nine years of age, when he removed to Sterling, in the same State, and grew up on a farm, at the same time attending the public school. Later, he went to Auburn, and there entered the academic high school, from which he was graduated with honors. He was foreman for Hayden & Smith, and after a while removed to Cleveland, where for fifteen years he showed his unquestioned ability as the superintendent of the Brush Electric Works. Discovering that he had both a liking and a talent for financial operations, he joined the staff of the Garfield Savings Bank, in Cleveland, and for about eleven years was auditor of its many different branches.

On account of impaired health brought about through overwork, Mr. Possons resigned from his position of responsibility, and in 1908 came to California. He had made a couple of trips to the Coast on previous occasions, and so had become familiar with the state, and he was not long in selecting Fresno County as the section appealing most to his experience and judgment. He bought what has become the family ranch, containing a six-year-old vineyard of wine grapes, with eighty acres on Belmont Avenue, eleven miles east of Fresno, where he located and built his home. He put up a fine new residence in modern style, and replaced the wine grapes with muscat, Malaga, and Thompson seedless grapes, and prepared to get what he could out of life as a proper reward for his years of wearying activity.

Thus comfortably situated, Mr. Possons appeared to have in prospect a fair lease of life, but on April 10, 1917, to the deep regret of his many friends, he passed away, an honored and devoted husband, father and citizen, and a deeply religious man. He was always patriotically interested in civic affairs, and as a Republican was invited to the councils of his party.

At Auburn, N. Y., December 30, 1879, Mr. Possons married Miss Mary J. Conner, a native of that city, and the daughter of Joseph and Mathilda (Steel) Conner, natives of Belfast, Ireland, and members of the Orange party, who had married there, and come to New York, where Mr. Conner was a boot-and-shoe-maker. Mr. Conner enlisted in the Union army of the Civil War, and was a member of the Seventy-fifth Regiment of New York State Infantry Volunteers, and saw valiant service in the Battle of Cedar Creek and other engagements. At the end of eighteen months, and at the close of the war, he received his honorable discharge. Mrs. Possons was educated at the Auburn Academic High School. Three children were born to this highly esteemed couple: Martha Adla died when she was ten years old;

Milton Howlet assists his mother at the home ranch, having married Gladys McNab, by whom he has had two children, George Allen and Evelyn M.; and Marion Elida has been attending Mills College, from which she was graduated with the Class of 1918. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Possons has operated the ranch with the aid of her son, and has supported every movement for the advancement of local agricultural interests, and, in particular, the California Associated Raisin Company.

ROBERT K. MADSEN.—Communities blessed with such men as R. K. Madsen are the richest in the world, because they are rich in that which cannot be measured by the dollar standard. One of Parlier's foremost citizens, Mr. Madsen is president of the Parlier Winery, and also of the River Bend Gas and Water Company. He was born in Denmark, April 4, 1860, near Odense. He grew up there and at Aarhus, and other places in Denmark, where his father lived after returning from California in 1857.

His father, Jorgen Madsen, was a native of Denmark, and in his early manhood learned the painter's trade, but later became a sailor. His father's uncle, Jens Storm, a millwright in Denmark, came to San Francisco in 1846 and, in the annals of the history of California, has the distinction of having built the first grist mill at Folsom and the first flour mill ever built by a man other than a Spaniard in California. A Chicago publisher, a few years ago, printed a book in English, giving the history of his life.

Jorgen Madsen, one of the early pioneers of California, while a sailor on a voyage to the New World, left his ship at Havana, and made his way to Vera Cruz, Mexico, in 1848, and, although it was not the lure of gold that first brought him to Vera Cruz, yet upon hearing of the rich finds in California he resolved to try his fortune in the favored land, and, securing a mule, made his way to the west coast of Mexico, where he took passage for San Francisco. For nine years he was engaged in mining and painting, becoming a contract painter in partnership with a man by the name of Holm, under the firm name of Holm & Madsen, with their place of business at 58 Clay Street, San Francisco. The business proving profitable, he remained in San Francisco until 1857, when he returned to Denmark and was united in marriage with his betrothed, Conradina Rytel. For several years he ran the hotel at Odense, Denmark, then became interested as a sub-contractor in the construction of the first railroad ever built in Denmark. He moved to Mullerup and from thence to Skanderborg, where he became interested in a flouring mill, and in 1869 removed to Aarhus, where he became a manufacturer and extensive dealer in brick and lime, and where, after an active, useful and respected career, he died at the age of seventy-two. He and his good wife were the parents of Robert Kelly Madsen and Conradine Fanny, the widow of Ankjar Heegaard, now residing in Copenhagen.

Robert K. Madsen was well prepared for a business career in a private academy in Denmark. At the age of fourteen he left school and began a seafaring life; starting as a junior sailor, he rose to the position of ordinary seaman and then to that of a regular sailor. He followed the calling of the sea for nine years, in the meantime attending the Danish navigation school. He became an officer and was in the line of promotion when his hearing became impaired, an incident which exempted him from the seaman's fate of "once at sea always a salt," and which was providential, as he was enlisted to go on the *Jeanette*, then outfitting at San Francisco for her last voyage to the Arctic. His defective hearing caused his rejection, and thus he was saved from going. He worked his way back to New York City as a seaman, and thence took passage for Copenhagen in 1880 for the purpose of visiting his old home. He learned the business of making compressed yeast and the distillation of whiskey, then came back to California after an eight months'

visit in Denmark. He was with the Protrero Yeast and Distilling Company in San Francisco, acting in the capacity of superintendent. From there he went to the Bay View Distilling Company at South San Francisco, and then entered business for himself at the National Vinegar Works in San Francisco. Afterwards he was with the Frank Lewis Pickle Company at Oakland, and when that partnership was dissolved he and Mr. Lewis formed the Lewis Packing Company at San Francisco. Disposing of his interests, he went in 1896 to Parlier and purchased the eighty-acre Miller & Company vineyard and orchard. In the spring of 1897 he moved onto the ranch and continued to operate it until 1917, when he sold it. The winery was organized in 1900, and Mr. Madsen's efforts made it a splendid success. It had a capacity of 850,000 gallons of brandy per annum. They made no wine. In 1913, Mr. Madsen became president of the River Bend Gas and Water Company, in which he had been a stockholder for many years. He was also instrumental in helping amalgamate the Alta District Gas Company of Dinuba with the River Bend Gas and Water Company, distributors to Dinuba, Reedley, Parlier, and Kingsburg.

On a second trip to his old home in Denmark, in 1887, Mr. Madsen was united in marriage with Anna Flack of Aarhus, daughter of Carl and Maria (Peterson) Flack, natives of Denmark, both now deceased. Of the six children in the parental home one died in Denmark at the age of forty; the surviving children are: Wilhelm; Henrietta; Ann Maria; Florentine, and Marie.

Mr. and Mrs. Madsen's union has been blessed by the birth of ten children, three of whom, Otto, Ellen, and Halvor, died in infancy. The seven living children are: Georgia, the wife of E. A. Berryhill, a rancher at Del Rey, Fresno County; Carl, who married Miss Etna Hankey of Sanger, and who is the president of the Parlier Winery and resides in Parlier; Anna, the wife of Mr. George W. Wiley, stockraiser, near Orange Cove, Fresno County; Helga, a graduate of the Glenn County high school in the class of 1914, and who also attended the San Francisco Institute of Art one year, and is well known as an artist of merit; Robert K., Jr., chief electrician and instructor in the Navy Reserve at San Pedro; Henriette and Herald, students in the Reedley high school.

The family home is a comfortable cottage which is built on the winery property at Parlier. Mrs. Madsen is an accomplished musician and an acquisition to the social life of Parlier. Mr. Madsen was a member of the old Raisin Association, in which he held stock and whose interests he did all in his power to further. He also helped organize the Parlier Packing and Raisin Seed Company, and also the Vinegar and Pickling Company at Parlier, which are operated in connection with the winery.

MARTIN J. JUUL.—Many of the pioneers of Fresno County are still identified with the interests of the commonwealth, some as horticulturists, developing the riches of the soil, some as business men enlarging the commerce of the state, others as professional men devoting their learning and mental resources to the good of the people. Among the honored and thrifty pioneer ranchers of Fresno County, one who has spent twenty-five years in developing the resources of the soil, and is especially interested in the growth of viticulture and horticulture, is Martin Juul, residing in the vicinity of Selma. He is a native of Denmark, born near Grenaae, on February 20, 1863, a son of J. S. and Karen Marie (Rasmussen) Juul, who were both natives of Denmark, farmer folks, owning about seventy-five acres of land. The mother died two years ago; the father is still living in Denmark and has reached the advanced age of eighty-one years. They were the parents of six children, Martin being the third child and the only one residing in the United States of America.

When twenty-five years of age, Martin Juul decided to seek his fortune in America, so he set sail from Copenhagen in October, 1888, on the good



V. H. Crump



Annie B. Crump

ship Heckla of the Tingvalla Line, and after a voyage of two weeks and a half, arrived at Castle Garden, New York City, having stopped for a day and a half at Christiania, Norway, en route. Having acquaintances in Fresno County, Cal., it was but natural that he came at once to the Golden State. After arriving in Fresno County, Mr. Juul secured work as a ranch hand, being employed by the month. By his association with English speaking people he soon learned enough of the language to enable him to conduct his business affairs. After three years of laboring for others he rented land near what is now Del Rey, but, after one year of paying rent to a landlord, determined to be a landowner himself and in 1891 purchased his present place of twenty-five acres. At the time of purchase it was a part of a wheat field, and having no water for irrigation he was obliged to haul it from a neighboring ranch. Mr. Juul began to improve his land and in due time planted ten acres to muscat vines, four to peaches, three acres to Thompson seedless grapes and one acre to alfalfa. He experienced the discouragements that are usually the lot of the early pioneer, but, with a resolute spirit and an indomitable will to succeed, he overcame all obstacles and ultimately won success and gained a splendid ranch in which he has a justifiable pride of ownership.

In 1902, Mr. Juul made a visit to his native land, and seven years later enjoyed a second trip to the land of his birth.

Martin Juul is greatly esteemed in the community where he has resided for so many years, as a man of high principles and unquestioned Christian character, a devoted member of the Danish Lutheran Church at Selma, of which he is a trustee. He is a member and stockholder of both the Raisin and the Peach Growers' associations, and in politics he is a Republican.

VICTOR HUGO CRUMP.—A family not only emanating from pioneer stock, but thoroughly Californian, and therefore out and out American, is that of Victor Hugo Crump, a stockman and rancher on the West Side. His father was John Gray Crump, a native of Virginia, who had married Nancy Ann Cox, born in Missouri. He died in 1912, and she passed peacefully away on June 15, 1914.

When still a young man, John Gray Crump emigrated to Paris, Mo., and there he both went to school and taught school. In 1850, when everybody was talking gold, he crossed the plains with a party of friends, traveling with the slow-going ox teams, and finally reached the goal of their ambition, the practically unexplored and unsettled state of California. He mined in Amador and Calaveras Counties, and then located in Santa Clara County, near Gilroy, where he farmed. In 1860 he settled near Kingston, in Fresno County, becoming one of the very early pioneers there. He followed stock-raising but the flood of 1861-62 drove him out. Believing that Fancher Creek offered still better conditions in that field, he removed to land near Academy, where he homesteaded 160 acres and followed stock raising. In 1872 he located in Warthan Canyon, in the mountains above Coalinga, and there he bought 320 acres, which was later increased to 1,340 acres. There he followed stock-raising the remainder of his life. He was the first post master of Warthan Post Office and was one of the first school trustees of Pleasant Valley school district.

Mr. Crump was a man of sterling character, supremely honest, open-hearted and generous, and especially inclined to help the poor. A good student and a devouring reader, he took up the study of law and medicine, the history of the Bible, ancient history and also political economy; and as he was quite familiar with these subjects, he was a hard man to beat in an argument. He was a stanch Democrat, but refused many offers from fellow-citizens to nominate him for public office. He belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

John Crump was twice married. His first union was with Mary Cox, and after her death he married her sister, Nancy Ann Cox. Of the children of Mr. Crump, nine grew up and are still living. The eldest is Mrs. Califor-

nia Wier, who makes her home with her brother on the old home ranch. She has two sons—Dillard Spencer, the divisional superintendent of the Southern Pacific Railroad at Portland, Ore., and Cullen Gray of Coalinga. The next in order of birth is Mrs. Anna West, of Coalinga, who has four children. Then comes Robert Hayne, who died in 1890. Mrs. Elizabeth Kreyenhagen, of Coalinga, is the oldest of the second marriage, and whose marriage was blessed with three children; Victor Hugo, the subject of this sketch; and after that Mrs. Virginia Bell Croy, of Los Angeles, who has three children; then there is Frank, who is married and has three children, and Archibald, who is also a father of two children, and Chesterfield who, with Frank and Archibald, is ranching in Sacramento County.

Victor H. was born on Fancher Creek, twenty-two miles east of Fresno, June 22, 1859, so was only five years of age when his parents moved to the West Side. He attended school in Pleasant Valley, and in Warthan Canyon districts. From a youth he learned the stock business with his father, continuing with him until his death, when he took charge of the place. When twenty-one he had homesteaded 160 acres and also purchased land adjoining his homestead, and leasing the old home, he runs about 2,000 acres in Warthan Canyon, where he engages in stock-raising. It has not all been a path of roses, but has required hard work, energy and sacrifice, so with foresight fortified with the experience of the past, and an enterprising spirit prompting and permitting him to dare, where others falter, and at length to do, Mr. Crump has become one of the leading stock-raisers of Fresno County.

When Mr. Crump married near Lemoore, June 28, 1906, he was united to Mrs. Annie Belle (Shore) Merrill, a native of Santa Clara County, where she was born into a pioneer family that in 1882 moved to Tulare County. Mrs. Crump is the daughter of Gilbert Edward and Emily (Bullard) Shore. Born in Missouri, her father crossed the plains in an ox team train with his parents when six years of age and was reared in Santa Clara County. Her mother came by way of the Isthmus of Panama. In 1882 Mr. and Mrs. Shore moved to Tulare County in the portion that afterwards became Kings County. He was a prominent man, served as supervisor of Tulare County and then was supervisor of Kings County, soon after the county was organized, for two terms until shortly before his death. He was a prominent Mason and a past master of Lemoore Lodge. His widow now resides near Lemoore. Annie Belle Shore received a good education in the public schools of Kings County, supplemented by a course at the Santa Clara High. Her first marriage was in 1893, to Strong Merrill, a native son, born in San Francisco. He was the first under sheriff of Kings County and was the nominee for county assessor at the time of his death in 1894. She had one daughter, Mae, by her former marriage, and she is now the wife of Justin Miller, formerly district attorney of Kings County. Mr. and Mrs. Crump have five children, and they are: Anna Victoria; Cecelia Elizabeth; Laurence Shore, died October 28, 1918; Edward Herndon; and Jeanette Winnifred. Mrs. Crump is a member of the Neighbors of Woodcraft, and clerk of the Circle; she is also a member of the Lilly of the Lake Chapter, No. 41, O. E. S., at Lemoore, of which she is past worthy matron. Mr. and Mrs. Crump are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Coalinga and active in all movements for moral uplift and welfare of the people of the community. The Crumps own a residence in Coalinga where the family reside during the school months but the summers are spent on the ranch.

MRS. ANNA M. ANDERSEN.—A lady of motherly qualities and steadfast Christian character, in which she worthily represents her deceased husband, the late Niels Andersen, the pioneer among the Danes in this locality, is Mrs. Anna M. Andersen, like her husband an expert in farming and fruit-raising, and a good organizer and financier, as has been agreeably demonstrated since she took charge of the family estate. She is managing the farm by the help of her sons, all excellent young men, and they have built the beauti-

ful bungalow house in which she now makes her home. Her ranch is about midway between Selma and Parlier, and it is frequently visited by ranch fanciers who enjoy seeing a modest "show-place."

Mrs. Andersen was born in Denmark, the daughter of Soren Sorensen, who married Christini Pedersen, and both of whom were born, married and died in Denmark. She was the fifth of six children, and three of her brothers preceded her to America. Soren P. Sorensen owns a forty-acre ranch three and a half miles from Selma; Niels P. Sorensen is half a mile to the north of her land; and Chris Sorensen, the rancher, is about a mile away in the same direction. Mrs. Andersen came to America in 1897, and took her course westward by way of Canada, in which country she stayed for a while. In 1899 she reached the land of promise of which she had heard so much, and at once built her camp-fire at Selma. The following year she met Mr. Andersen, and after a brief courtship they were married.

He was born in Denmark on September 23, 1860, the brother of Jes Andersen whose biography is sketched elsewhere in this work; he learned the carpenter's trade in Denmark, and in 1880, when only twenty years of age, left Denmark and came out to the middle west of the United States. He worked as a carpenter, and at building and grading a railway in Wyoming, and little by little he made enough progress to enable him to remove further west. When he reached California, he worked in the timber woods at Pine Ridge, Fresno County; and continuing to save his money, he was able to make his first investment in a California ranch. At the same time that his brother bought twenty acres, he also purchased twenty adjoining, both tracts being wheat field. The purchase was made of W. J. Berry, the pioneer of Selma, and has proven an excellent buy. Mr. Andersen had worked for three years at the famous Boston Ranch at Fresno, and there had acquired valuable knowledge and experience that stood by him when he came to develop his new possession.

Later he bought forty-eight acres more, and, as soon as he could, he planted all his land and otherwise improved it. He had always been a very conscientious, careful worker, striving for the highest results and least of all favoring himself, and through overwork and exposure he was taken with pneumonia, which developed into Bright's Disease, and he died on October 26, 1915, aged fifty-five years. He was mourned by a devoted widow, by a whole community, and quite as much by his three children, Hans, Christian, and Edith.

Business-like in managing his private affairs, a man who believed in setting his house in order and in assisting others to do likewise, Mr. Andersen helped to organize the First National Bank of Parlier and was on the bank's first board of directors. Men of far larger affairs reposed their faith in his integrity, no less than in his judgment, and were never misguided.

HORACE E. NORMAN.—A public-spirited citizen, generous to a fault and untiring for the public welfare, is Horace E. Norman, the one surviving son of J. L. Norman, the vice-president of the Bank of Kingsburg. He owns a splendid ranch of about forty acres half a mile north of the Clay school, and besides operating that, he rents forty acres of his father's property. He was born in Saunders County, Nebr., on August 1, 1889, but grew up mainly in Fresno County, having come to California when he was five years old.

His father, who had much to contend with and who, as a successful American of an interesting type, is represented elsewhere in this work, had a career worth noting again. He was born in Sweden, in 1860, the son of Andrew and Johanna Norman who came to the United States in the late sixties and settled in Saunders County, Nebr., where they homesteaded. The tough experiences of a pioneer, in contending against grasshoppers, cyclones, blizzards and panics, undoubtedly hastened Andrew Norman's end, for he passed away in Nebraska, while his widow was able to come west to

California, in the middle nineties, bringing her family. J. L. Norman, as a boy in Nebraska, earned his salt and many times over, so that when he became of age he was able to assume the leadership of the family. He farmed, and he also married, taking for his bride Miss Elna Nelson, who was born and reared in Sweden. When he came to California, he bought and improved twenty acres of land, and afterward he bought and improved forty acres. He sold the twenty and bought another forty. On these ranches he set out peach-trees and muscat vines, and became so active as a successful rancher that he was naturally made a trustee of the California Associated Raisin Company. Busy as he has constantly been, he has found time for wide travel, back to Nebraska and then to Sweden, with his family, and so has become a well-informed leader of men. As late as the winter of 1916-17, J. L. Norman had erected for his residence one of the choice dwellings in Kingsburg's select quarter.

After passing his boyhood attending the Clay Grammar School, and doing chores, and growing up, Horace E. Norman was married to Miss Edith Louisa Peterson, at Kingsburg, on January 19, 1916. She was the daughter of Alexander E. and Anna Petersen. Mr. and Mrs. Norman have one child, Horace M.

The association of father and son made Mr. Norman his father's main stay in running the home ranch. He is not only an excellent worker, but a young man of principle, good judgment, and common sense. He is one of Fresno County's most promising young men. Mrs. Norman also deserves her full share of honor, not only for her worthy family connections, but also for her part in the social life of the community, and she is, in more than one sense, a model citizen.

JOSEPH MARTIN.—Born in Ray County, Mo., in 1862, Joseph Martin is a son of William and Emeline (Clark) Martin. His father served in the Civil War and died in Missouri in 1877; his mother is still living and now resides in Fresno. Joseph grew up in Missouri, where he received a good education and in April, 1881, he migrated to California and engaged in ranching in Fresno County.

Joseph Martin was united in marriage at Kingsburg, Cal., on September 7, 1890, with Abbygail Woodmansee, who was born in Ray County, Mo., the daughter of Oliver and Frances (Huddleston) Woodmansee, natives of Ohio and Harrison County, Mo., respectively. Mr. Woodmansee was a soldier in the Union Army and served in an Ohio Regiment of Artillery until the close of the war, after which he came to Missouri where he was married and followed farming and stock-raising until his death, in 1884. Besides his widow he left three children: Abbygail, widow of Joseph Martin; James; and Mary, now Mrs. Kline. After her husband's death Mrs. Woodmansee brought her family to Traver, Cal., in 1886, and two years later located at Kingsburg, Fresno County, where she made her home until her death.

Abbygail Woodmansee was the oldest child of the family; she attended the public school at Traver, but, being the eldest, was early obliged to take up the duties of life and assist her mother with the work at home, becoming her mainstay and greatest help, and remained with her mother until her marriage to Mr. Martin. After their marriage Mr. Martin leased a part of the Alfred Baird place near Academy and engaged in raising grain for three years and then leased a part of the Simpson place, in the same vicinity. In 1900 Mr. and Mrs. Martin purchased the old Kern place of 1,800 acres on Fancher Creek, where they engaged in stock-raising and soon afterwards they bought another ranch of 556 acres close by. In 1910 they sold the 1,800-acre ranch and purchased the present place of 410 acres in the Round Mountain District and moved there. During these years Mr. Martin also bought and sold other ranches. He also found time to serve as a trustee of the Fancher Creek district.



Joseph Martin & St. Martin

Five months after they settled on the Round Mountain ranch Mr. Martin passed away, on February 11, 1911, at the age of forty-five years, leaving besides his widow, six children: Harry, who resides in Fresno; Bertha, is the wife of Lawrence Simpson, of Sanger; Walter, assists his mother on the ranch; Elsie, is the wife of Clarence Moore of Round Mountain; Hazel; and Joseph. Since the death of Mr. Martin, his widow continues to operate the home ranch but leases the Fancher Creek ranch. Mrs. Martin is one of the very oldest settlers in this part of the county and, like her late husband, is favorably known and highly respected.

FRITZ E. NORD.—A hard-working, progressive, large-hearted and public-spirited young man, who is equally successful with his brother, E. M. Nord, reviewed elsewhere in this history, and who is rapidly forging to the front, socially, financially and politically, is Fritz E. Nord, a rancher living four miles northeast of Kingsburg, on Central Avenue, in the Clay school district, where he is clerk of the school board. There he has thirty acres of land; and there his good wife, who is an excellent mother, neighbor and citizen, assists him to dispense a liberal hospitality.

He was born in Sweden on December 13, 1887, and when six months old came to California with his parents, who settled, with good judgment, in Fresno County, at West Park, and the next year came to Kingsburg. His father was John P. Nord, and he is still living, a pioneer rancher in the Kingsburg Colony, having reached his sixty-fourth year. He married Susanna Timan, and she became the mother of four children. These were E. M. Nord; I. J., who died on August 3, 1917; Fritz E., the subject of this review; and Alfred, who was born at Kingsburg and died in infancy.

Almost a native son, Fritz grew up on his father's farm and attended the Harrison district school; and when twenty-one—having meanwhile remained at home to help, as a dutiful son—he started in for himself by renting land. The next year he bought his twenty-acre place which he has converted, as if by a miracle, from a patch of weeds into a highly developed area; and still later he purchased another ten acres adjoining. On January 21, 1914, Mr. Nord was married to Miss Hannah Anderson of Kingsburg, and since that time he has been the fortunate enjoyer of a happy home life. They have three children: Ethel E., Helen V., and Chester A. E.

Mr. Nord has served as the efficient clerk of the school board; he is both a member and a stockholder for the California Raisin Growers Association, and a solicitor as well, and he succeeded in getting one hundred per cent. of the acreage assigned to him in his territory, namely, Sections 7-16-23, signed up, and subscribed willingly. He is also a member and a stockholder in the California Peach Growers Association, and has encouraged all movements to improve the market for the ranchman, and to produce more stable agricultural conditions, on which so many thousands depend. This interest of Mr. Nord in commerce and industry has led him to take a live interest in politics, voting always for the best man and the principle involved; and while giving loyal support to the national administration, he is keenly alive to all affairs affecting the community.

E. M. MIKKELSEN.—Good and effectual boosters of the industrious, thrifty, progressive, successful and happy sort, such as are always a credit to the land from which they come, while they are a blessing to the United States, and just such pioneers as Fresno delights to welcome and to honor, are Mr. and Mrs. Mikkelsen, a contented, confident couple of superior and impressive personality. They own a twenty-acre ranch near the Ross school-house, two miles south of Parlier, and all who know them respect them and wish them well.

E. M. Mikkelsen was born at Hirtshals, Denmark, near the Skagerack Light House, on March 20, 1871, and attended the Danish common schools, while he prepared for confirmation in the Danish Lutheran Church. From

fourteen to eighteen he followed fishing; and having tasted of the romance of sea-life, he came to America and settled at Merrill, Wis. He sailed from Hamburg on the steamship Prussia of the Hamburg-American line, and on March 28, 1889, landed at the old Castle Garden in New York City.

Settling in Wisconsin, he engaged in the arduous and dangerous work of a woodsman in the service of various lumber companies, and for five seasons drove timber down the Wisconsin. Then he moved to Minneapolis and there, with a partner, ran a Merry-go-Round, continuing to manage the amusement for a year and a half. He realized considerable income from his combined labors and investment, and began to plan greater things.

Between 1898 and 1900, Mr. Mikkelsen made a visit to Denmark, and coming back to America and the Pacific Coast, he settled in San Francisco and engaged in the oyster business. He became the foreman for the Morgan Oyster Company, being with them seven years. He then made a second trip to Denmark, staying a year; and after he returned in 1910, he was married, at San Francisco, to Miss Johanna Christina Fredericksen, a daughter of Denmark, who had come to Iowa when she was sixteen years old, and there became a trained nurse in the Sioux City Hospital. Later she came to San Francisco and continued her nursing; and when she married, she was finely equipped for pioneer work. Mr. Mikkelsen bought his place in 1909, and soon after his marriage made it his home. They have one child, the light and life of the household, Envoid Miller, Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Mikkelsen are members of the Danish Baptist Church in Selma. They are thus disposed to aid in building up and improving Parlier in every respect. They also belong to the Danish Brotherhood. As members of the Peach Growers and Raisin Growers associations they also labor to advance Central California's great industries, and they put in many days of effectual work in the great raisin drive in the winter of 1917 and 1918. They are enthusiastic advertisers of the country and the county in which they have had their prosperity; and as loyal citizens, they vote for the best man and the highest principles.

W. H. DEWHIRST.—A young man of such ideals that his numerous customers not only get the best there is to be had but always find him courteous in his attention to their wants, is W. H. Dewhirst, the wide-awake manager of the Selma Rochdale Company store, the famous emporium for general merchandise. His father was the Reverend A. Dewhirst, a Methodist minister who died a few years ago, and a member of a well-known family reaching back several generations in Lincolnshire, England. His mother was Miranda Byrne before her marriage; and she is still living at Selma. His father belonged to the Southern Illinois Conference, and following the itinerary assigned him, he moved with his family from place to place, having at different times a church and a home at Olney, Claremont, Sumner, Flat Rock, Louisville, Belmont, Oblong and Bone Gap. In all these places, the good influence of the Reverend Dewhirst's unselfish work is still felt today; and in each of these places his excellent wife and attractive family soon found a circle of steadfast friends.

Born near Olney, in Richland County, Ill., on August 22, 1883, the subject of our sketch began his education at the public schools and continued his preparation for life in the rough school of experience. At the age of nineteen, he had so far progressed that he was teaching with a second grade certificate; and two years later, he used a first-grade certificate. Abandoning the classroom for the counter, he went into a general merchandise store at Passport, Ill., and for two years he patiently acquired the numerous details of the exacting business. Then he bought the proprietor out, and for two years conducted the store himself. Disposing of his entire interest there, he acquired a farm in exchange, and next experimented in the field of agriculture.

In March, 1910, attracted to Selma by its wonderful development, Mr. Dewhirst sold his farm and left the state in which he had spent some of the best years of his life. He at once engaged as a clerk with the Selma Rochdale Company, a mercantile house with a history of unusual interest. The old company was organized in 1900 as one of the first cooperative stores in the San Joaquin Valley. There were one hundred eighty-eight members when the company was most prosperous, and the shares were taken principally by ranchers and horticulturists of the vicinity. However, the death of the principal supporters led to its dissolution, the company paying its debts, one hundred cents on the dollar, and also paying the shareholders in full. In 1912, Mr. Dewhirst was made manager, and he continued with the old company until it sold out, on December 22, 1917, to J. M. Byrne.

On January 1, 1918, the present firm, also known as the Rochdale Company, was organized and its store opened on High Street, Selma, since which time the public have come more and more to appreciate its service. Being a very careful business man, Mr. Dewhirst not only selects with a special view as to what his patrons want, but when he has been successful in securing what usually cannot be found with his competitors, he exercises adequate care to see that it is well displayed. From first to last he applies those business ideals, to which reference has already been made, with the result that it must be an odd customer who is not eventually and generally satisfied.

In his twenty-first year, Mr. Dewhirst was married to Miss Grace Dewhirst, by whom he has had four children, Victor, Roy, Fred, and William; and more than ever today his good helpmate shares his popularity. Both Mr. and Mrs. Dewhirst are members of the Methodist Church, and with their children they attend the First Methodist Episcopal congregation. Lately, Mr. Dewhirst purchased his former home on Second Street from W. R. Dale, where hospitality marked the family life, and once again drew together a wide circle of friends.

W. R. GORDON.—It is not often that a man is able to test his popularity with safety and success by absenting himself awhile from the scene of his former activities, but this has been done by W. R. Gordon who, to the great satisfaction of his numerous friends and his even more numerous acquaintances, returned to Selma with his family on April 1, 1919, and two weeks later took possession of the Economy Grocery, which occupies the south side of the store-room at 1940 East Front Street, Selma. His many years of experience both as clerk and proprietor have made him thoroughly conversant with the best brands and qualities of staple and fancy groceries, and he not only gives his personal attention to the wants of his patrons, but directs the neat and sanitary disposition of his stock. He is indeed a live wire, and it is not surprising that he is building up a good trade at Selma.

W. R. Gordon was born at Warrensburg, Johnson County, Mo., on September 2, 1883, the son of W. B. Gordon who married Miss Ada Reed, a native of Little Rock, Ark., who still lives in Fresno, with her four daughters. When the lad was sixteen years of age, his parents came with him to Selma, and here his father served the city for four years as Councilman, dying in January, 1918, when he was fifty-nine years old. During his tenure of office especially, he was one of the strongest temperance advocates at a time when Prohibition was decidedly unpopular, and when the anti-saloon fight was up-hill work, and he stood firmly for a dry Selma. When he first went into the bitter fight, he ran a busy blacksmith shop and employed six men in a smithy that was among the best patronized in or near Selma; but as a result of his uncompromising attitude toward the liquor traffic, he saw his business dwindle to a point where, with only one helper, he could take care of all the work that came to his shop. Nevertheless, he persisted in his work of reform, and Selma became the first dry town in the San Joaquin Valley.

W. R. Gordon is largely self-taught and self-made, having been rather a precocious boy when he was in the grammar schools in Missouri and at Selma. At thirteen he entered a newspaper office in Missouri, first as "devil," and later as typesetter on the Johnson County Star, and soon after arriving in Selma he resumed his work as a compositor, working after school and on Saturdays for John W. Aikin, editor and proprietor of the Enterprise at Selma. Later on he was made clerk in Unger's Stationery Store, and later still became a clerk for the Walter Scott Company, in Selma, remaining with the latter firm steadily for eight years. He next went to Coalinga and clerked for A. P. May for a year, and then he bought a store at San Joaquin, in Fresno County, where he also became postmaster, while conducting a successful general merchandise store.

In the spring of 1919 he returned to Selma and bought out W. O. Staley, the former owner of the Economy Market, and took possession of the grocery department. Mr. Staley had owned and operated both the meat market and the grocery, but the former he sold to Jess L. Williams, who took possession the same day that Mr. Gordon did.

On the second day of July, 1905, at Selma, Cal., Mr. Gordon was married to Miss Bertha Neer, a native daughter, whose parents, William and Mary (Bozeman) Neer, ranchers a quarter of a mile east of Selma, reared her in that favoring town. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon have two children, Louise and Marada. The family attends the Christian Church at Selma, and Mr. Gordon is a popular member of the Woodmen of the World.

MRS. CHRISTINE A. PETERSEN.—The home of Mrs. Christine A. Petersen, widow of the late John Petersen, superintendent and president of the Parlier Winery during his lifetime, radiates the hospitality and good cheer that its owner is ever pleased to extend to those who are so fortunate as to be guests within its walls.

Mrs. Petersen is a native of Denmark, having been born in Sondre, Jylland, November 22, 1868. She is the daughter of Hans Iversen Vind and Anna Maria (Schmidt) Vind. Her father was a well-to-do farmer in Denmark, and both her parents were born and married under the Danish flag. As a result of the war of 1864, however, Schleswig became a province of Germany. Although her father died under the German flag his sympathies always remained with Denmark. In a family of six children who grew to maturity, Mrs. Petersen is the second child. Two children died in infancy in Denmark. The six children came to California, viz., Marie, who is the wife of Charles Sorensen, a chef residing at Fruitvale; Christine Adophine; Hans J., who died single in California; Petrine, the wife of Christ Andersen, a baker in San Francisco, where they reside; Jorgine A., the wife of Peter Hansen, a rancher near Parlier; and Peter Adolph, who is a rancher north of Parlier. After the death of the father of the family, his widow came to Selma, Cal. She was accompanied by her invalid son, Hans J., and divided her time between the homes of her children in various places in California and the home of her son, Peter Adolph Vind, in the Selma district. The mother lived to the advanced age of eighty-three, dying in California.

Mrs. Petersen was reared in Schleswig and sailed alone from Hamburg on the steamship Harmonia. She embarked at Hamburg in the early part of September, 1885, and landing at Castle Garden, New York, lost no time in going to Salinas, Cal., where she arrived October 3, 1885. She met Mr. Petersen—a native of Denmark, born February 26, 1859—in the Central Colony, four miles south of Fresno, where they were married May 31, 1889.

As a young man, Mr. Petersen served his regular military course in Denmark, afterwards working on farms in that country. After coming to the United States he worked at various occupations and trades, finally coming to California. He owned 160 acres in San Bernardino County, Cal., then became interested in Fresno County viticulture. He lived six months in the



Sam Hamilton
May A. Hamilton

Central Colony, then came to the Parlier district. (There was no Parlier station at that time). Later, he helped build the winery at Parlier and for five years served as its secretary and manager. For four years he was its manager and President. He then purchased twenty acres of unimproved land. Starting with nothing, the place is now well improved. In 1906, Mr. Petersen built a fine residence. The ranch is on the Consolidated Ditch and is planted to alfalfa, muscats, Thompson seedless, seedless sultanas, Malagas and peaches.

Mr. Petersen died September 10, 1911, at the age of fifty-two and was buried in the Mendocino Cemetery. He was the first president of the Danish Brotherhood. His widow now owns the ranch.

Mrs. Petersen bore her husband seven children. The oldest is deceased. Hannah is the wife of Mr. Henry Eckenrode, ex-soldier in the Philippines and in the United States Marines, who is now renting a ranch one and a half miles northwest of Parlier; they are the parents of one child, Bernice Christine. Henry George, twenty-four years of age, has just returned from France. He was transferred to the One Hundred Seventh Ammunition Train of the Thirty-second Division, and saw five months' active service in the Alsace, the Aisne-Marne or Chateau Thierry, and Soissons and Argonne sectors. He had several close calls. He was honorably discharged, May 31, 1919, at the Presidio, and reached home the next day. William Bryan joined the colors, and served five months at Camp Kearney, and became chief mechanic; he was honorably discharged at Camp Kearney and came home February 6, 1919. Walter Christian, a lad of seventeen, graduated in June, 1918, from the Selma High School; John and Antone M., twins, died in infancy.

Mrs. Petersen is a charming and accomplished woman, and her well-ordered household bespeaks her qualifications as a fine housekeeper. She is a consistent Christian and an active church worker, and she and her family are members of the Lutheran Church, three miles west of Parlier on the Reedley road. Mrs. Petersen is also a member of the Red Cross.

SAMUEL HAMILTON.—A native son proud of his association with the great commonwealth on the Pacific Coast, Samuel Hamilton was born in the Red Bank district of Fresno County, on May 2, 1877, the son of Stephen Hamilton, who came from Illinois to California in the early settlement of the state, having crossed the great plains, and for a time followed mining. Then he moved into Fresno County and became one of the early grain-ranchers near Red Bank, although he died at Oakland in 1897. Mrs. Hamilton was Albina Howison before her marriage; she also was a native of the East, and died in the Red Bank district in 1900. Two children were born of their union; Samuel, of this review, and Nellie, now a teacher in the Fresno State Normal.

Samuel Hamilton received the best education possible in the local public schools and at the Woodbridge Business College, and from a youth assisted his father at grain-farming. He was united in marriage at Tarpey, Fresno County, on December 10, 1899, with Miss May Alice Fleming, who was born at Lewiston, N. Y., and came to California and Fresno County in 1893 with her parents, J. M. and Emma E. (Odell) Fleming, and she was educated in the Jefferson school district.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton continued at grain-farming in Red Bank, where he operated his mother's place, until her death in 1900; and then, having inherited the farm with his sister, he kept on raising grain and stock there for thirteen years. In 1903 or 1904, he and his sister purchased 160 acres in Enterprise Colony, and began improving it by setting out twenty-six acres in vineyard; and in 1912 they sold the old Hamilton place. Then he leased a vineyard at Clovis, which he ran in connection with the ranch of 160 acres; but he did not live to enjoy the fruits of his labors, for he passed away, February 23, 1914, at the early age of thirty-seven. After

his death, Mrs. Hamilton built a residence on the tract of 160 acres and continued viticulture and farming, in partnership with Miss Nellie Hamilton. She made numerous improvements, and among them sunk a fine well. She resided on the property until 1917; then, on account of needed high school advantages for her children, she built a residence in Clovis, to which place she moved; and there she now resides, having rented the ranch.

Six children were born to this worthy couple, and five are at present living: Nellie Margaret, a graduate of the Clovis High School, Class of '19; John Leslie, attending the same; Ellison Stephen; Doris May, and Samuel Lawrence. Mr. Hamilton was always interested in the cause of popular education, and served as a member of the board of trustees of the Red Bank school district. Mrs. Hamilton is a member of Grace Methodist Episcopal Church at Clovis, and a stockholder of the California Associated Raisin Company, one of the greatest agencies for the advancement of Central California.

WILLIAM DUNCAN.—A business man of stability and influence, most interesting to converse with—perhaps because of the many hardships through which he has gone—is William Duncan, who has built up a substantial block in the commercial district of Clovis and now enjoys, with his gifted wife and daughter, the fruits of his years of toil. His grandfather, Thomas, was born in Scotland; he was a college graduate and an educator; he crossed the ocean and settled in New York, afterwards teaching in Montreal, where he was principal of schools. His father, William, was born at Utica, and growing up to be a farmer, he crossed the border and settled in Ontario. In 1866, he came to Lanark, Ill., and later removed to Albany, Whiteside County, the same state, where he resided until he died. Mrs. Duncan had been Elizabeth Burton Williscraft before her marriage; she was born in England, and died in Clinton, Iowa. She was the mother of eight children, five of whom are still living.

Born at Smith's Falls, Ontario, on June 13, 1857, the second youngest, William was educated at the public schools, completing the grammar grades in Albany, Ill. When sixteen, he began running on a Mississippi river boat owned by his brother-in-law, Captain O. P. McMahon, where he became engineer; but quitting the river, he chose the blacksmith trade. At Clinton, Iowa, he had a chance to learn the trade with George Bryant, and he remained with him for three years, or until 1877. He was also awhile in business for himself. When he sold out, he joined a company of young men going to the Black Hills, who made their way through the Indian country to Fort Pierre by means of ox teams. There he prospected and mined, with varying luck. He and a partner, John F. Straub, located two mines. On leaving, they let a fellow in as partner with a one-third interest. He developed the veins but the next year all the records of the location of mineral claims were burned in the big fire at Deadwood; and taking advantage of this fact, the rascal jumped both claims and sold them for one hundred thousand dollars, and neither Duncan nor Straub ever received anything for their share.

Meanwhile, Mr. Duncan had made his way from Deadwood to Morrison, Colo., where he worked at his trade, and later to Leadville, where he prospected and mined. Then he came on to Prescott, Ariz., where he was a blacksmith with Fred Britt. He next engaged in cattle-raising with J. H. Hicks, in the Magolone mountains, using the brand of H-D, the two letters representing the two partners, Hicks and Duncan. After some years, they divided up, and he continued the cattle business alone in Strawberry Valley. He had been in the cattle business for sixteen years, and had prospered, owning many cattle, when a three years' drought came on, and he lost all that he had.

While in Strawberry Valley, Ariz., Mr. Duncan was married to Miss Laura Bell McFarlane, who was born in Merced County, Cal. She was well-

educated and a member of the teaching profession; and was engaged in teaching when she met Mr. Duncan. Her folks lived in the San Joaquin Valley; and after they lost all their cattle, they moved to California in 1895. Here Mr. Duncan engaged in mining in the Yosemite Valley, on the Mariposa-Tuolumne county line; and with his brother-in-law he opened and ran the Laurel-LeGrand mine. There they built a five-stamp mill and put in a hoist and other machinery, using steam power for all the work. Bent on greater adventure, Mr. Duncan, in 1898, made the journey into the Klondyke, going to Atlan Lake, then to Dawson, then to Eagle City, traveling 1,500 miles over ice with dog teams, to Nome, prospecting from point to point. He was two years and four months in the frozen North, and during that stay, all too long, went through many hardships, so that he was never before so glad to return to California.

Taking up his residence here again, he located in Clovis, and ran a butcher shop. Then he worked in San Francisco and Portland, and finally at Coalinga, where he was on the construction of the water-line. In November, 1908, he bought out Broes Giffin's blacksmith shop, and continued the business. All he had was a little wooden shop on two lots; since then he bought three lots adjoining, giving him 125x150 feet located on the corner, and built a new blacksmith shop, 50x75 feet. He also built a new brick garage, 50x120 feet, and furnished it with modern machinery. This garage and equipment he rents. He also owns a comfortable residence.

Mr. and Mrs. Duncan have had five children: Maud L., a graduate of the Fresno State Normal, and now Mrs. Brown; Grace B., also a graduate of the Fresno State Normal, teaching in Oakland; William J., a graduate of Clovis High School, who died at the age of eighteen; George, who died at one year of age; and Oliver J., attending the Clovis High School. Public-spirited, and favoring all that makes for better conditions, Mr. Duncan is a Republican in national politics, but supports the best man when it comes to local issues. Both Mr. and Mrs. Duncan enjoy the respect and good-will of the community.

J. R. HOOP, D. V. S.—A young man who has dedicated his life to the important science of veterinary medicine and who has those progressive and prepossessing qualities which make him welcome among the most enterprising residents of Fresno County, is J. R. Hoop, the son of James A. Hoop, a native of Ohio, and Martha A. Casey, who was born in Indiana. His parents were married in Iowa and moved to Western Kansas, where Mr. Hoop engaged in the stock business. Choosing to move still further west, he brought his family to Santa Ana, Orange County, Cal., in 1906; but although he could see the many advantages of the Southland, he was not satisfied until, two years later, he brought his household north to Selma, where the family is now residing. Here the father is the fortunate possessor of forty acres set to peaches and vines, while he has a residence with two acres at the city limits, just north of Selma. He is now at work for the county, hauling oil for road purposes. Two daughters are: Mrs. A. B. Scholes and Mrs. J. F. Berry, both of whom are living in Selma.

Born on June 20, 1888, at Santa Fe, Kans., and reared in Cowley County, that state, young Hoop attended the grammar schools of Kansas, while growing up on farm and stock ranches. Thus, early in life he became familiar with live stock; and that boyhood experience has been of great value to him. He rode the range as soon as he could keep his balance in the saddle. When a youth he became a jockey, and weighing only 114 pounds, he rode many famous horses, frequently winning for the owners.

Mr. Hoop had come to California with his parents in 1906, but in 1907 he returned to Kansas, and entered the Kansas City Veterinary College. After completing the three-year course, which has made that institution notable in the West, he graduated with the Class of 1910. He has not only

acquired scientific knowledge, but the latest ideas in practical devices, and as a result he has the most up-to-date electrical float and full equipment for veterinary dentistry and surgery. He very successfully treats anthrax, lumpy jaw, black leg, and tuberculosis, by means of vaccines and serums, and administers tubercular tests; and he also treats hog cholera by means of serums. He also castrates ridglings, stallions, etc., very successfully, having castrated forty-seven ridglings and never lost a case. His office is at 1612 East Front Street, Selma, and so successful has he been that he owns the building in which the office is located. He also owns the lots at the corner of his business street, that is, at the corner of East Front and Orange Streets. Dr. Hoop is a member of the State Veterinary Medical Association.

On February 11, 1913, Dr. Hoop was married to Miss Mary A. Wagner, a native of Oklahoma, who came to California about seven years ago. They have one child, J. D., four years of age. Dr. Hoop owns a handsome five-room bungalow residence at 2465 B Street, in Selma, where he resided with his family before he entered the service. He is a Mason and a member of Selma Lodge, No. 277, F. & A. M. He also belongs to the Foresters. He is a loyal booster for Selma and Fresno County, and actively supports the Raisin Growers' Association.

Dr. Hoop enlisted in the Veterinary Corps in the late war and was commissioned lieutenant, serving three months at Camp Lee, Virginia. When he enlisted he gave up his practice at Selma. He was honorably discharged on January 1, 1919. Since his return he has devoted nearly all his time to his two splendid ranches of twenty and forty acres, respectively, which lie about four one-half miles west of Selma, and which are in vines. Dr. Hoop and family moved to the city of Fresno upon his return from the service, and are now domiciled there.

D. A. WILLIAMS.—The career of D. A. Williams, one of Fresno County's successful vineyardists and horticulturists, furnishes a splendid example of what is commonly termed, a self-made man. He is a man of sterling integrity and worth and is highly esteemed in the community near Fowler, where he owns a ranch of 120 acres, on Adams Avenue, one mile west of Fowler. A native of the Lone Star State, Mr. Williams was born on December 3, 1866, near Georgetown, Texas, a son of William C. and Eliza (Ellison) Williams. His grandfather, Aaron Williams, was born in Virginia, but migrated to Tennessee and it was in this state that W. C. the father of D. A. Williams, the subject of this review, was born. The Williams family are descendants of Scotch ancestry, although D. A. Williams claims a trace of Welsh blood from his paternal grandmother. His mother's progenitors, the Ellisons, were natives of the Emerald Isle who immigrated to the United States, settling in Alabama during the early days of American history and later moving to North Carolina, then to Tennessee, afterwards to Texas and finally the present representatives of the Ellison family migrated to the Golden State. Both the Williams and Ellison families have experienced the trials, hardships and excitements of pioneer settlers. William C. Williams, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a scout and cavalryman during the Civil War, serving in the Confederate Army. At one time he farmed and raised cattle in Williamson County, Texas.

D. A. Williams was united in marriage with Estella Glossbrenner, daughter of A. F. Glossbrenner, of Fowler, Cal., the ceremony being solemnized in Mason County, Texas.

He was identified with the farming and cattle business in Texas, but owing to failing health, he moved from there to the Salt River Valley, Ariz., where he was interested in cattle-raising for six or seven years.

He arrived in Arizona with his wife and five children, and only five dollars in cash. Being undaunted by adversity and fully determined to succeed, he struggled along and by hard work, intelligent efforts and economical habits, he eventually succeeded.



S. E. Williamson

In 1907 he moved to Fowler, Fresno County, Cal., and was engaged in the butcher business from 1909 to 1914. During the year 1913, he purchased his present ranch of 120 acres, one mile west of Fowler. By applying the same system of hard work and intelligent management to the raisin industry, that he did to the cattle business, Mr. Williams has succeeded equally as well and has gained for himself the reputation of being one of Fresno County's most successful vineyardists and horticulturists.

He is very public-spirited and always interested in those movements that have as their aim the upbuilding of the best interests of the community. He still possesses his Mexican lariat which he used about thirty-five years ago and can throw it today as well and effectively as any cow-boy.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Williams are the parents of six children, of whom they are justly proud: Lela, married George Wilkins and they reside one-half mile northwest of Fowler; Mabel, is the wife of Porter Brown, and they live in Fowler, where he is the foreman of the Phoenix Packing House; Lois, was the assistant postmaster at Fowler, she married Ervin Freer, of Fowler; William, married Mary Jackson, and assists in running the Williams home place near Fowler; Max answered the call of his country and served in the United States Army. He was honorably discharged in May, 1919, and is now assisting his father on the home farm. He was married July 31, 1919, to Miss Jonnie Newton of Fresno. Robert, who is eleven years of age, is at home. Mr. Williams is a man of high ideals and unquestioned integrity and his family are highly respected in their community.

SIMEON EDGAR WILLIAMSON.—A native son of the Golden State, grandson of a forty-niner who was a successful gold-miner and a descendant of an officer in the Revolutionary War, the subject of this sketch, S. E. Williamson, is a very energetic and progressive rancher in the Elkhorn school district, and a director of the Fresno District Fair. He was born at Stockton, Cal., January 15, 1877, a son of George F. and Ann (Ballard) Williamson; the former, who died July 11, 1919, was a native of Michigan, whose sketch will be found upon another page of this history; the latter, a native of the Golden State, is still living on the George F. Williamson home ranch near Riverdale. The family came to Fresno County in November, 1885, settling near what is now Caruthers. The trip was made to the new home with a team and wagon, and S. E. Williamson, then a small boy, well remembers that the family were detained at Fresno for three days on account of breaking the wagon tongue. The father raised wheat at first on a tract of land owned by Timothy Paige, who was a large landowner and pioneer, the ranch being situated about three-quarters of a mile south of Caruthers.

Simeon E. attended the Princeton school, and when but a small boy evinced a fondness for the "great out-of-doors," helping his father on the ranch when but nine years of age. He learned farming from his father and was always very industrious, which commendable trait has characterized him through his lifetime. Before coming of age, he started in business for himself, buying a team and contracting for earth-work, such as ditch-building, road-making, and reclaiming land, helping to drain the Murphy slough, by which thousands of fertile acres were reclaimed for farming. In 1898, before the Santa Fe Railway was built, he helped to build the first ditch in the Laguna de Tache Grant, where Laton now is situated.

On June 15, 1902, S. E. Williamson was united in marriage with Miss Alice Hatch, the only daughter of Mrs. Mary J. Hatch, a pioneer of the Elkhorn school district, a sketch of whose life appears upon another page of this history. They have six children: Sidney; Robert, who is called Bert; Mary E.; Edna J.; Francis L.; and George.

Mr. and Mrs. Williamson make their home on the old Dennis Hatch ranch, which Mr. Williamson operates, and he operates a 2,000-acre cattle-

ranch besides. He is a director of the Fresno District Fair, which has proved a marked success; the board of directors comprises S. E. Williamson, J. E. Dickinson, H. E. Vogel, Frank Helm, A. McNeill, M. D. Huffman, and P. B. Thornton. Mr. Williamson is deeply interested in educational matters, and since 1912 has ably served as a member of the board of trustees of the Riverdale High School. Mr. and Mrs. Williamson are highly esteemed in their community.

GEORGE E. LANDRY.—Popular in fraternal and business circles of Fresno and as the assistant secretary of the Fresno Sequoia Club, George E. Landry is well-known. He was born in Canada, February 15, 1867, the son of Peter and Mary (Choinier) Landry, farmer folk of Canada. He grew up on his father's farm and his education was received in the public schools of Lowell, Mass. After leaving school he went back home to help his father. Both parents are now deceased.

In 1886, at the age of nineteen, Mr. Landry married Mary L. Dion, and they have had five children born to them: William E. is in the employ of the Stavnow Furniture Company in Los Angeles; Laura is Mrs. Fred Merrill, of Camarillo, Cal.; and Eva, Leo, and Alice are at home.

Mr. Landry spent three years in North Adams, Mass., and then moved to New Bedford, where from 1895 to 1906 he served as steward of the Wamsutta Club. During his residence in that city he became interested in the oil business. In 1908 he came to California as the representative of the New Bedford Oil Company, and for nearly four years he had charge of their business here. He next became a clerk in the Grand Central Hotel in Fresno and later was manager of the hotel for eighteen months, or until January 1, 1917, when he was appointed to the position of steward and secretary of the staff of the county hospital, by the county commissioners. He served faithfully until July 1, 1918, and then became assistant secretary of the Fresno Sequoia Club.

Mr. Landry is a member of the Catholic Church, the Knights of Columbus, the Elks and the Commercial Club. In politics he is a Republican.

A. T. CARLSON.—A man who has attained, in a few years, an enviable success in the commercial and banking circles of Kingsburg, Cal., is A. T. Carlson, a native of Sweden, where he was born on September 12, 1872. He has been a resident of the United States most of his lifetime, as his parents brought him to Barnes County, N. D., in 1880, when about eight years of age. He was reared in Barnes County, and after finishing his education in the public school of his district he engaged in farming. In 1903, A. T. Carlson took a trip to California and while visiting Kingsburg, Fresno County, he became favorably impressed with its location and climatic advantages. With keen foresight he could discern the future possibilities. Returning to North Dakota, he sold his interests and moved to California, and during the fall and winter of 1904-1905 he was engaged in farming.

Mr. Carlson soon engaged in the hardware and furniture business, in Kingsburg, with J. F. Nelson. In the spring of 1906, he purchased the interests of his partner and became sole owner of the business, which he has continued ever since, as the Kingsburg Hardware and Furniture Company. Since he took charge of the business its growth has been phenomenal. Inheriting the characteristic zeal and thrifty habits of the Swedes, and acquiring the hustle and acumen of the man of affairs in the great West, it is but natural that we find him today one of the most progressive and successful citizens of Kingsburg. The rapid growth of the business necessitated larger quarters; the first building was 36x50 feet which soon became too small. In 1909 the first enlargement was made, but in 1917 it became necessary to practically rebuild, and the new building is now 88x100 feet. The new store-room is one of the finest and best equipped in the San Joaquin Valley, in the hardware and furniture line. With its up-to-date cases and displays of fine merchandise, the store is very attractive.

Additional evidence of Mr. Carlson's exceptional ability is found in the fact that he is first vice-president of the Kingsburg Bank, which he was instrumental in organizing, and which now has the largest deposits of any bank in Kingsburg. He is public-spirited and is ready to aid in the furtherance of the educational, religious, and commercial interests of the community.

A. T. Carlson was united in marriage with Miss Emily Nyberg, of North Dakota, who is also a native of Sweden. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson are the parents of four children: Adolph A.; Nannie; Mildred; and Esther. Mr. Carlson and wife are leaders in the work of the Swedish Free Church at Kingsburg, which has recently built a new church edifice. Mr. Carlson was active in the incorporation of the town of Kingsburg and was elected to the first board of city trustees and served five years, serving as chairman of the board one year, a position equivalent to the office of mayor.

RALPH F. MITCHELL.—The successful and efficient superintendent of the California Associated Raisin Company's branch located at Del Rey, Fresno County, Ralph F. Mitchell, is a native son of the Golden State having been born in San Juan, San Benito County, on December 19, 1879. He is a son of Charles E. and Elizabeth (Hewitt) Mitchell, both natives of Vermont who migrated to California, the former in 1859 and the latter ten years later. Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Mitchell were the parents of six children, five of whom grew to maturity: William H., Robert D., Ralph F., Elizabeth W., and Helen G.

The early life of Charles E. Mitchell was spent in the sheepraising business, and at one time he owned as high as 15,000 head. Fraternally, he was a prominent Mason and also a member of the Chapter. He held the office of Grand Warden, and was Grand Patron in the Order of the Eastern Star.

Ralph F. Mitchell was associated with the American Seedless Raisin Company for six years, during four of which he held the important post of superintendent, a position upon which depends the volume of business done and the dispatch with which it is executed. In December, 1918, he became superintendent of the California Associated Raisin Company's plant at Del Rey, which he is now enlarging, adding a seedless-raisin packing plant. In fact, preparations are being made to increase the facilities for handling a greatly enlarged seedless raisin product during the present year and in the future. When improvements are completed, it will compare favorably with the best of the association's plants outside of the parent plant at Fresno.

In 1906, R. F. Mitchell was united in marriage with Louise M. Nutting, a native of Berkeley, Cal., and a daughter of W. R. Nutting. Four children have come to bless and brighten the home circle: Hewitt F., Franklin G., Esther H., and Richard R. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell are active and influential members of the Congregational Church. Mr. Mitchell is a man of sterling worth and is held in high esteem in business and social circles. He is one of the directors of the First National Bank at Del Rey, which will occupy its new structure in 1919.

WILLIAM D. McLEOD.—A public-spirited leader of Kingsburg generous to a fault in all that advances the community, and therefore, extremely popular, and at the same time one of the most successful of business men, is William D. McLeod, proprietor of the Rexall Drug Store, one of the two excellent pharmacies of the town. He came to Kingsburg in 1915 and has succeeded, by rare qualities applied in a commonsense manner, in winning for himself a place among the ablest and most influential.

Mr. McLeod's drug-store is centrally located. He compounds physicians' prescriptions with exacting care, and is well assisted, in waiting on his large and growing list of customers, by two thoroughly trained clerks familiar, like himself, with the oddities and demands of human nature. He has a soda fountain, deals in books, phonographs, toys, sporting goods, papers, magazines, cigars, proprietary medicines, and similar necessities, and is constantly en-

larging his trade. His genial personality, coupled with a thorough knowledge of pharmacy, his wide experience in business, his sanitary establishment and large and well selected stock, his courteous attention to the wants of all customers—all these have resulted in his commanding a large share of the patronage of the locality.

Mr. McLeod was born at Ottawa, Canada, and there he grew up, to serve a four years' apprenticeship in a leading pharmacy and to complete the regular pharmaceutical course at the Ontario College of Pharmacy, from which he was graduated in 1898. He is duly licensed in the various States of the Union, as well as in his native Canada. Being thus equipped, he has seen much of the North American continent, an experience of value in his professional work. He has held positions as pharmacist in leading drug-stores in New York City, Toronto, Vancouver, San Francisco, Nome (Alaska), where he was in 1905, Tonopah (Nev.), and Seattle, from which city he came to Kingsburg in 1915. In some of these places he conducted drug-stores of his own. He was thus pleasantly situated at Tonopah, where he had made heavy investments, when, by reason of the panic of 1907 the boom broke and he suffered severe losses. He has always been able to maintain a good credit, and is enjoying the inevitable reward of playing the game right and keeping wide awake.

At Manhattan, N. Y., in April, 1906, Mr. McLeod was married to Mrs. Anetta Finking, nee Attinger, formerly of San Francisco; and they have one child, Louise, a general favorite. Mrs. McLeod shares the popularity and good-will enjoyed by her husband.

To know Mr. McLeod is to like him. His advent to Kingsburg brought the town a progressive citizen, a good booster, and a man who, with his charming family, adds much to the community's status and social life.

WILLIAM ARTHUR TROUT.—A young man of much native ability, an excellent workman who thoroughly understands his business, and an exceptionally progressive young man distinguished as the prime mover in club and other social affairs, and in forwarding all that makes for the general uplift of the community, is William Arthur Trout, who was born in The Dalles, Ore., on April 8, 1885. His grandfather, J. H. Trout, was born in Kentucky and settled in Oregon; while E. W. Trout, the father of our subject, was a native of Maitland, Mo. In that state he was married to Miss Laura Gordon, of Maitland, and in time they came to what was then called The Dalles, Ore., where Mr. Trout worked at farming. In 1897, the family moved to Salinas, Monterey County, Cal., and there Mr. Trout was favorably known as an able carpenter and builder. In Salinas he died, in 1916, following to the grave his wife, who had passed away seventeen years before. Five children had been given these devoted parents—all sons, and each in his way promising—and three of these are still living; and among them, the subject of this instructive sketch was the second youngest. H. G. is a bookkeeper with the Shell Company at Oilfields; H. E. died at Salinas in 1902, when he was nineteen years old, and E. L. also passed away at the same place in 1904 and at the same age; and O. C. Trout is serving his country valiantly in the United States Navy.

Reared on an Oregon farm until he was twelve years old, William was educated in the public schools and in 1902 went to San Francisco where, at the age of past sixteen, he was apprenticed as a sheet-metal worker in John H. Blakeway's works. At the end of two years he entered the service of the Pacific Blower and Heating Company and in two years was made superintendent of their plant. Immediately after the great fire and earthquake, he opened business on his own account at the corner of Eighth and Folsom Streets, San Francisco, and for a year did sheet metal work of all kinds; but in 1908 he quit, lured by the greater attractions of Oilfields.

In April of that year he entered the employ of the California Oilfields, Ltd., as foreman of the tank department, and built and started their shop. In



V. B. Fincher.



Beriah V. Fincher.

August, 1913, when the Shell Company took over the property, he not only continued with them in the same capacity, but he enlarged their department through his valuable practical experience. Now it includes all sheet-metal work, the plumbing and the operation of the three distilled water-plants. It is indeed a big, busy department; and Mr. Trout is the foreman of all that goes on there.

While in San Francisco, Mr. Trout was married to Miss Ann Irwin, who was born at Waco, Texas, but reared at Coalinga, where her father was one of the noted pioneers. One child has blessed this union—Doris, the charm of the household.

For five years Mr. Trout was a trustee and clerk of the Oil King school district, and he was one of the organizers of the Oilfields Club, and the only charter member now left. He was treasurer from the start, with its sixty-five members; it is now a large club of nearly 500 members, having some \$12,000 of assets and handling about \$17,600 yearly. He is supervisor of the social department, which conducts the dances, lectures, etc., of the club, generally held in the lecture hall in the winter, and the moving pictures, which are given in the air-dome outside in the summer. There are pool and billiard parlors, and cigar stands, a place where ice cream and confectionery are sold, a swimming pool and a circulating library, a branch of the county library; and provision for base and foot-ball. University Extension courses and private classes for men have been arranged by Mr. Trout and his committee, each member of which is keenly alive to whatever may prove of social and intellectual advantage to the workmen and their families.

Mr. Trout is a member of the Red Men in Coalinga, and a charter member of the Netana Tribe, No. 242, Coalinga, in which he is a past officer and a trustee. He is a Progressive Republican in politics, and a member of the Coalinga Chamber of Commerce, serving it also as a director.

VITAL BANGS FINCHER.—It is refreshing to read the story of Vital Bangs Fincher, or Tallie Fincher, as he is familiarly called in the wide circle of his friends. A wide-awake citizen, inheriting foresight and force, he is making a wonderful success of his enterprise, assisted by his able wife, and that despite certain handicaps such as would discourage and defeat many. He is a native son, having been born near Riverbank, in Stanislaus County, on January 19, 1873. His father, Levi Nelson Fincher, was a sturdy North Carolinian, who, after pioneer experience as a boy in Missouri, crossed the great plains when a young man, in 1850, to search for gold. Two years later he returned East, by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and while again in Missouri was married, that same year, to Miss Paulina Moore, a native of Tennessee, who came to Missouri with her parents. As a pioneer farmer, Levi Fincher moved with his wife to Kansas; and when, in 1862, his health was very poor, he resolved to try the Pacific Coast. It was necessary for him to cross the continent in bed, in a wagon; but the trip helped him, and in time he was able to drive his team of oxen. He arrived in Sacramento, and near there opened a store as a merchant. Afterwards he moved to Stanislaus County, and near Riverbank, at a place then called Burneyville, took up 160 acres and bought 160 more, and was in time very successful at farming. In 1885 he brought his family to Fresno and bought 800 acres nine miles northeast of the town, where he located. At first he engaged in grain-raising, and then he set out sixty acres in vines, but soon pulled out forty acres, because there was no sale for the grape product. He raised alfalfa and grain, and after years of toil, retired. He built a home on Calaveras Avenue, Fresno. After a most creditable record for accomplishment, on August 18, 1909, he passed to his eternal reward, dying in the seventy-eighth year of his age. His wife had passed away in November, 1907, five years after they had celebrated their fiftieth anniversary.

Eleven children were born to this worthy couple. The first-born became Mrs. C. P. Evans, of National City, Cal.; the second became Mrs. G. D.

Wootten, of Santa Cruz; the third is Robert Fincher of Hanford; the fourth is J. M. Fincher, who resides at Fresno; the fifth is Mrs. J. B. High, of Madera; the sixth is J. P. Fincher, who ranches on a part of the old farm; the seventh is Miss Letitia Fincher, of Fresno; the eighth is Frank W. Fincher, of the same place; the ninth, Miss Elizabeth Fincher, also of Fresno; the tenth is the subject of our sketch; and the eleventh is Miss Matilda Fincher, of Fresno.

Tallie Fincher spent his boyhood, until he was twelve years of age, near old Burneyville, attending the public school and doing a boy's chores about the home, and then he came to the present home farm, continuing his schooling in the Jefferson district. Later he went to the Stockton Business College, and then to the Fresno High School, from which he graduated in 1893, after which he engaged in the teaching of school. He believed in the old maxim that if you would learn a subject yourself you should try to impart it to others. For a term he had charge of a school in Madera County, and then he taught at Davis Creek, in Modoc County, at the same time serving as justice of the peace. When he quit teaching, he took up shorthand under Musselman at the Fresno Business College, and only gave up that line when he felt the call "Back to the land."

For twelve years Mr. Fincher operated the home farm, leasing it, and raised grain and stock. When the 700 acres were subdivided, he came into possession of fifty acres and bought fifty acres adjoining, together with ninety acres toward the east. This last acreage was subdivided and sold at a profit in lots of ten, thirty and forty acres. Now he devotes all his land to the raising of vines and alfalfa, having ninety acres of table and raisin grapes, twenty acres in Malagas, and the balance in muscatels. He has ten acres of alfalfa. Having built a fine residence and spacious barns, he staked out the vineyard and set out the vines, and cared for it until his health broke down and he had to limit his activity to superintending what others did. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and also of the Melvin Grape Growers' Association, through which he handles his Malaga crop.

At Fresno, on March 27, 1895, Mr. Fincher was married to Miss Beulah Morrison, who was born near Cairo, Randolph County, Mo., the daughter of Asa P. Morrison, a native of Tennessee who while in Missouri, was married to Eliza Musick, of that state, a niece of Jesse N. Musick, of Fresno, to which city they came when, in 1889, they moved to California. For a while the father was in the livery business; then he was engaged in farming the Lone Star Ranch, and thereafter was busy with viticulture. He retired, taking up his residence in Fresno, and died here in 1910. Mrs. Morrison still resides in Fresno, the mother of five children, of whom Beulah was the next to the youngest. She was educated in the public grammar and high schools, and became the mother of two children: Ethel, the wife of F. E. Moore, who resides in Richmond, Cal., and has two children, Roy and Floyd; and Herbert B., who is still under the parental roof.

ED J. SOUZA.—One of California's very successful young native sons engaged in the occupation of ranching in Fresno County, is Edward J. Souza. This energetic young man rents the G. W. Beale eighty-acre ranch lying two and a half miles southwest of Monmouth.

Ed Souza was born in Marin County, California, November 12, 1895, and is the son of Henry Souza and Lucy (Garcia) Souza, natives of the Azores, colonial possessions of Portugal. The father was born in 1863 on the Island of St. Michael, and the mother on the Island of St. George. The father, when twelve years of age, took to the sea. After three years spent in the occupation of whaling he went to Providence, R. I., and joined a company of American whalers who were bound for the Arctic, engaging as cook. He afterwards returned to his native islands and at the age of twenty was united in marriage with Lucy Garcia at St. George. Some time after his marriage

he went to Boston, Mass., later removing to New Bedford, Conn., where he established his home. He then enlisted in the United States Navy and went on the training ship *Chisel*, leaving his wife and family at New Bedford for two years. His wife became ill, and because of her poor health he came with her and his family to California in 1889, settling first at San Pablo. Later he went to Sausalito, where he worked for the Duncan Mill Company for seven years. It was while working here that his son Ed was born.

In 1906 the father removed with his family to Hanford, Cal., and in the fall of that year he came to Selma, later going to Academy, where for a year he was engaged in wheat raising. He then rented John Rorden's place of 160 acres, which he farmed successfully. In 1912 he bought a forty-acre dairy ranch two and one-half miles northeast of Conejo and ran it for one year. He sold it and bought another forty-acre ranch on the west side northeast of Burrel. He and his wife are the parents of seven children, five boys and two girls. The eldest, Joseph, who was born at St. George, January 1, 1884, came to America in 1906. He now assists his brother Ed in running the ranch. George the second son, is a river and bay captain and the owner of several tow boats. Henry, is in France with the Twenty-sixth Division of the United States Army. He fought in the trenches, was wounded and spent four months in the hospital, afterwards returning to his post. He was gassed in September, and after recovery took the position of cook in the army in October. Four years ago he and his brother Ed were engaged together in ranching in Tehama County, California. The fourth child, a daughter, May by name, is the wife of Joe Bettencort, a rancher four miles west of Monmouth. Lena, is the wife of Dan Soranno, who is in France. Ed J. provides a home for his parents on the ranch he rents, and Alfred, the youngest child is in France and was also gassed and wounded. He enlisted in the United States Army when seventeen, April 3, 1917, the first to enlist for war in Sacramento.

Before the war Ed and his brother Henry rented Frank Helm's large dairy ranch at Herndon. They milked 175 cows and were doing well, but the ranch was sold, and according to the terms of their lease they had to give it up. They went to Tehama County where they engaged extensively in the stock business, incurring a loss of a thousand dollars in this business venture. Ed then went to Sacramento and for three years assisted his brother George in running his two boats. In 1918 he rented the ranch which he is now operating successfully, assisted by his brother Joseph. The land is planted to peaches and vines.

Intelligent, industrious, generous and public-spirited, Ed Souza makes and holds friends. He is kind to his parents, brothers and sisters, with whom he is a favorite.

THOMAS E. RICHARDSON.—One of the largest stock-buyers and best informed stock-men of his section of Fresno County, is Thomas E. Richardson, a native son and a descendant of an honored pioneer that crossed the plains in the early days of California. He first saw the light of day on November 9, 1875, at Plymouth, Amador County, Cal., and was reared on a ranch. He received his early education in the public school of Amador County, and when eighteen years of age went to Angels Camp, Calaveras County, where he was engaged in mining.

Mr. Richardson is a lover of fine horses, and at one time was interested in racing and the breeding of standard-bred animals. In 1903 he located in Fresno and was the owner of the well-known stallion "Stamboulet" sired by Stamboul, the latter sold for \$50,000 to E. H. Harriman and had a world's record of 2:07½. Stamboulet had a record of 2:10¼ and was the sire of Strathboule, who made a record of 2:13½. When the racing business subsided his inherent love for horses and animals naturally led him into the stock-buying business, which he conducted on a commission basis, and which occupation he has continued to follow ever since. Mr. Richardson is a very enterprising

and successful buyer, and his judgment in matters pertaining to values and conditions of live stock is very highly esteemed and much sought after. In 1916 he shipped 10,000 hogs to Kansas City for E. H. Myers, of Portland, Ore. During the same year he also shipped 1,800 head of cattle to B. C. Rogers, Omaha, Nebr. In 1917 Mr. Richardson shipped 450 head of cattle to C. L. Myers, Kansas City; 950 head of cattle to J. W. Goodwin, of Chowchilla, Cal.; and 350 cows to Hunter & Lytton, Elko, Nev. During 1918 his shipments included 350 head of stock cattle to Crane Brothers, Merced; 500 head to Paul Williamson, Stockton; and 400 head of cattle to Thos. R. Carlisle Company, Squaw Valley. Mr. Richardson owns eighty acres near Kearney Park, which he uses for pasturing and fattening stock prior to shipping.

In Fresno, on March 4, 1908, Thomas E. Richardson was united in marriage with Miss Evelyn Mugg, born near Kokomo, Ind., who came with her parents, B. F. and Virginia Velaria (Lorts) Mugg, to Fresno in 1900, and now are viticulturists near Dinuba. Mr. and Mrs. Richardson reside at 159 Forthcamp Street, Fresno.

H. L. WARD.—So intimately has H. L. Ward, the president of the First National Bank of Laton, Cal., and well known civil engineer of Central California, been associated with the development of this section of Fresno County, that it can be said that to him more than to any other individual, is due the wonderful development of the lands of the Laguna de Tache Grant and the building of the great irrigation system of that section.

Not alone is H. L. Ward a pioneer of California, but also of Fresno County. He was born in Merced County, near what is now Old Snelling, on June 28, 1865, the son of Isaac Newton Ward, an honored pioneer and 49er who crossed the plains with an ox team and mined for gold in Tuolumne County and where he also ran a ferry across the Tuolumne River, which was well known in early days as Ward's Ferry. Isaac Newton Ward was born in Virginia, the ancestors of the Ward family being traced back to England from whence they came to America in Colonial Days, settling in Virginia where the family was quite prominent, among the notables being General Ward, of the Revolutionary War. Isaac N. Ward became a prominent business man and was elected sheriff of Tuolumne County, also was honored by being a member of the State Assembly in 1854. He was married to Miss Elizabeth Birkhead, a member of a prominent family that came to California in 1850, the ceremony being solemnized near Snelling, Cal.

The Birkhead family settled at first near Visalia, and the Birkhead brothers were early settlers and pioneers near Friant, below Millerton, on the San Joaquin River, where they owned 5,000 acres, raised sheep and followed farming.

H. L. Ward's childhood was passed in that vicinity and when about five years of age he came with his parents to Fresno County and attended the first district school at Fresno Flats, now known as Oakhurst. His father was elected as a supervisor of Fresno County, where he farmed and raised stock.

In 1874, the mother passed away, and the next year was followed by the father, who left seven orphan children. H. L. Ward, the subject of this review, was the fourth child and was nine years of age when his father died. The children were reared in the home of their uncle, Mr. Birkhead, H. L. Ward remaining with him until he was seventeen or eighteen years of age. In the winter time he attended school and in the summer worked on farms and ranches. When seventeen he began to make his own way in the world and by the time he was twenty-one, he had, by a hard struggle succeeded in finding enough spare time for studying and reading to gain sufficient knowledge to enable him to take the examination for a school teacher, which he successfully passed and received his certificate to teach; his first school being at Auberry Valley, in 1886. Mr. Ward continued to teach intermittently for



Howard

ten years; in the meantime he was studying surveying and civil engineering, being his own teacher and instructor, but later on he attended the Vander-nailen School of Engineering, San Francisco, where he pursued a course in engineering. Mr. Ward became acquainted with Nares & Saunders, the sales agents of the great Laguna de Tache Grant, who engaged him to survey the extensive acreage. More than ten years before this he had become acquainted with I. Teilman, the well-known civil engineer of Fresno, having worked with Mr. Teilman for several years, and was associated also with him in the year 1899, in surveying the Laguna de Tache, but in 1900, Mr. Teilman withdrew and opened an office in Fresno, but Mr. Ward continued the work of surveying the grant for irrigation, extending and remodeling the Lillis system of irrigation. Not only did he survey the 68,000 acres in the Laguna de Tache Grant but 20,000 acres bought subsequently, making a total of 88,000 acres owned by this firm. Mr. Ward continued to work for Nares and Saunders from 1899 to 1908, then after one year of rest he engaged with Tom Patterson of Fresno, to survey and lay out the mains and laterals for irrigating the Patterson Tract, and to lay out the townsite of Patterson, Cal. Mr. Ward was engaged on this project from 1908 to 1911. During this time he resided at Laton, but in 1911 removed to Patterson, where for two years he was superintendent of the Patterson project, which included looking after the ranch as well as overseeing the irrigation and engineering work. On August 1, 1913, he returned to Laton, where his personal interests now require most of his time.

As a financier H. L. Ward has displayed great ability and was one of the organizers of the First National Bank, of Laton, which opened for business in 1910, when the former State Bank of Laton was merged into the First National Bank. The State Bank was organized in 1908 and in 1909 when it opened for business it had as its officers: W. E. G. Saunders, of Emmetsburg, Iowa, president; J. Q. Hancock, vice president; C. A. Smith, cashier.

The present officers of the First National Bank are: H. L. Ward, president; R. M. Bostwick, vice president; C. A. Smith, cashier; A. E. Hudson, assistant cashier. The Board of Directors: R. M. Bostwick, Alice N. Cornwell and H. L. Ward. Mr. Ward is also a trustee of the Laton Library Association.

Mr. Ward helped to build the Kerman branch of the Southern Pacific Railway and was material inspector of the road in 1891. He was also material man on the line of the Southern Pacific Railway from Bakersfield to the asphaltum beds on the West Side and at one time surveyed an irrigation project for the Santa Fe Railway in the Tulare Lake district, which, however, never materialized. In 1890-91 he was also material man for building the Pulaski railroad, now a part of the Southern Pacific system, about twenty miles in length running from Fresno to Pulaski, now Friant.

H. L. Ward was united in marriage with Miss Katherine B. McKenzie, of Laton, Cal., the ceremony being solemnized in San Francisco, on November 30, 1904. In 1908, he built his beautiful residence in Laton and, since August 1, 1913, has continued to make this town his home. Mr. Ward is an authority on irrigation and has been more than ordinarily successful in subdividing large tracts for disposition in small tracts to actual settlers. He is a man of resourcefulness and executive force and has by his unaided efforts succeeded in making a signal success in his chosen line and has always lived up to his high ideals of honor and lofty business principles.

JOHN W. ARMSTRONG.—The genial proprietor of the Pine Ridge Hotel and store is John W. Armstrong, who has been a resident of California for fifty years. He was born in Shelby County, Ill., February 12, 1861; his parents Washington and Delilah (Renfrew) Armstrong; brought their family across the plains in an ox-team train in 1869, and located near Stockton, where they resided for ten years, then moved on to a ranch on Little Dry Creek, above Academy in Fresno County, and there they spent their last days.

John W., then a lad of eight and the youngest of four children, well remembers the trip across the plains with the slow-moving ox-teams and wagons. His schooling was obtained in the district where they lived in San Joaquin County. In 1879 he came to Little Dry Creek with his parents and soon started raising stock on his own account and in time purchased his father's farm and continued there for a few years. Then he sold and started in the livery business at the corner of L and Kern streets, the present site of the Auditorium. His brother James was in partnership with him and they operated under the firm name of Armstrong Brothers, proprietors of the Club Stables. They continued in business for twenty years, when they sold out in 1907.

As early as 1903, Mr. Armstrong had purchased the Pine Ridge Hotel, and since 1907 has resided there and continued to run it as a first class hotel, and it has been a popular stopping place for stockmen and travelers. The hotel is a large two-story structure and was erected by Sam Jennings in an open space cleared from the pine and cedar timber. It is supplied by water from a mountain spring nearby. Mr. Armstrong also runs a general merchandise store, the building having been erected in 1877 by Gus Bernig. Mr. Armstrong has been postmaster of Pine Ridge postoffice for the past twelve years. The ranch comprises 400 acres upon which he raises cattle. There is also a full-bearing orchard of apples and pears, a delight to the travelers, as well as the mountain towns close by whose inhabitants appreciate the delicate flavor of the fruit.

Mr. Armstrong was married in Fresno, being united with Miss Leota Ingram, who came to California from her native state of Arkansas and they have one child, John W. Jr. Mr. Armstrong is a well-known and influential citizen and with his estimable wife is popular and well-liked.

HERMAN GRANZ.—A resident of the Golden State since 1869, a period of almost fifty years, during which time he has watched with a great deal of interest the progress of the upbuilding of the state and has done his share to help all worthy projects, Herman Granz of Fresno was born near Chemnitz, Saxony, Germany, August 1, 1841. His father was Samuel Granz, a descendant of an old Saxony family. A brother, Louis Granz, lived in San Francisco for many years and died there, in 1904.

Reared on his father's farm, where he learned the rudiments of the various branches of agriculture as carried on in Germany, Herman Granz attended the public schools in his home locality, and, when he reached the age of sixteen, he was apprenticed to learn the cabinet-maker's trade. After he had thoroughly mastered the business, young Granz set out as a journeyman and worked in Austria, Switzerland and France. He heard of the great country beyond the sea, in the various places where he was employed and he made up his mind to come to the United States, and by 1868 he had made enough money to gratify his ambition. Upon arriving in New York City he worked at his trade one year in order to become used to the ways of the country and to learn the way business was conducted in this part of the world. California was the much talked-of state at that time and the account of its greater opportunities for young men decided this energetic young man to cast his fortunes with the newer state. He had saved enough money to bring him to California and he arrived in San Francisco via Panama.

Mr. Granz followed his trade in the western metropolis a short time, then started a furniture factory in Hayes Valley. Beginning on a small scale, his business increased so rapidly that he established a factory on Barry Street, and four years later erected a steam plant on Brannan Street. Here he made furniture of all kinds and had a trade throughout California and in Oregon, Washington, Arizona, Nevada, and in the Sandwich Islands, and employed some seventy-five experienced workmen. He carried on this business successfully until 1887, when on account of ill health, caused by such close application to the business, he had to leave the city.

In 1881, Mr. Granz had bought a tract of land in Fresno County adjoining the Eisen vineyard; at that time it was raw and undeveloped, and from time to time he set out vines, and when the railroad (which paralleled his land) was completed to Clovis, he had a flourishing vineyard. In 1885 he built a winery and began making wine. In 1887 he left San Francisco and settled on his land and thereafter gave his attention to the manufacturing of high grade wines for which he had built up a good business. This was one of the pioneer wineries in Fresno County. The capacity of the plant was increased from time to time until it had a capacity of 250,000 gallons. Mr. Granz erected a large modern country home, beautified the grounds and in time his became one of the show places on Belmont Avenue, east of Fresno. His example was followed by others and soon the section became one of the most attractive and productive in the county. Later he acquired an eighty-acre vineyard and winery near Dinuba, which is now a part of the Granz estate. This winery has a capacity of 300,000 gallons and is modernly equipped. Optimistic and a firm believer in the wonderful possibilities and future greatness of the City of Fresno, Mr. Granz invested in city property, now owning four business blocks two of which he erected, besides having other business interests in various places. On June 17, 1913, all of the property was incorporated as the Granz Estate, Mr. Granz being president.

The marriage uniting Herman Granz with Adelaide Bauhofer, a native of Austria, was celebrated in New York. To them have been born eight children: Carl T., vice-president of the Granz Estate and superintendent of the Dinuba Winery; Edward H., secretary of the estate and superintendent of the Fresno plant; Emil, deceased; O. J.; Mrs. Hermina Saier; Mrs. Sophie Gilbert; Adelaide, wife of Dr. F. L. R. Burks; and Clara. Mr. Granz was bereaved of his wife on April 3, 1919, and she was mourned by a wide circle of friends. Mr. Granz is a Republican, is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and as a man and citizen is an upbuilder and devoted to the interests of Fresno County and liberally supports all movements for its development. He often extends a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself, and has made and retains a large circle of friends.

CHESTER C. CRANE.—This sketch furnishes a splendid example of the business career of what is commonly termed "a self-made man." From a small beginning, C. C. Crane, the enterprising proprietor of the Eagle Laundry, of Fresno, has mounted the ladder of success, rung by rung, until today he has reached the top of the ladder in his chosen line, and has one of the largest and most modern steam laundries in the San Joaquin Valley; employing about fifty people inside and seven drivers of auto deliveries.

Chester C. Crane is a native of the City of Fresno, born December 30, 1881, on K Street; son of Edgar Crane, a native of Illinois, who crossed the plains in the early 60's, locating at Fresno. He was a carpenter by trade and built the first modern house in Fresno; also the Cooper House and the Ackers Building on K Street. Mr. Edgar Crane died in Fresno aged sixty years; his widow survived several years, dying when forty-two years old.

Chester C. Crane attended the public school of his native city, and as a boy assisted his father in the building business, later following the trade of a butcher. On October 7, 1895, he accepted a position in a laundry, and for five years worked in the Grand Central Laundry, which was located in the rear of the Grand Central Hotel, afterwards working in different laundries in Fresno, where he gained a thorough knowledge of the business in all its branches. In 1909 Mr. Crane started in business for himself, having built for the purpose, a small wooden building, twenty-four by fifty-five feet in size, in the rear of his home at 328 Thesta Street. As the business increased, he took in rooms from his home, until he added the entire house, using the front porch as an office. In the early days of the business Mr. Crane did all of the work, most of it being done by hand. In 1914 he

erected a small brick building on the site of the old home, which was razed to make room for the expanding business. Since then he has been compelled to again enlarge his building, and now has one of the largest and most modern steam laundry plants in the San Joaquin Valley. He named his laundry after the Fraternal Order of the Eagles, of which organization he is an honored member. While Mr. Crane was working for wages, he decided in his mind if he ever was fortunate enough to get into business for himself, he would pay his help the highest wages and require the shortest number of hours for a day's work. His laundry is a "Union Shop" and to his interest in the welfare of his employees, together with good work and prompt service, he attributes his success in business. The Eagle Laundry has agencies established all through the valley. The sanitary conditions at the laundry are the highest, and the machinery of the plant new and modern.

Chester C. Crane was united in marriage with Anna Lindstrom, a native of Easton, Fresno County, and this happy union has been blessed with two children: Lester, born July 25, 1904, a graduate from the grammar school, March, 1919; and Lorine, born October 11, 1906, attending the public school. Through sheer industry and perseverance, Mr. Crane has achieved the success which he rightfully enjoys today.

GEORGE P. DYREBORG.—When the full history of the wonderful development of Central California shall have been written, few names will deserve more honorable mention than that of George P. Dyreborg, the prominent viticulturist, and influential member of the highly intelligent group of Danish-Americans, long among the most substantial citizens of our State. He was born in Bred-Funen, Denmark, March 7, 1870, and from his eleventh year made his own way in the world. He attended the public school until he was fourteen, at the same time he worked on a farm, and at sixteen years of age he started to learn the creamery business in the cooperative creamery. Then he came to Jutland and Horsensfjord, and completed his apprenticeship at Bornholm. At the same time he studied English under a private teacher.

In 1891, Mr. Dyreborg crossed the Channel to England and went to Droitwich, Worcestershire, intending to learn the art of cheese-making, but was disappointed in the equipment of the place, and so he remained three or four months in the service of a horseman at the breeding stables. At the end of six months he left to learn gardening, and worked for Lord Hindlip for a year. Then he crossed the Atlantic for New York and made his way west to Chicago and the World's Fair; and after that he came west to Fresno, arriving on May 28, 1893.

Here he worked as a farmer and vineyardist in Washington Colony, south of Fresno, until the fall of 1893, when tiring of this, he went to the foothills in Madera County, where he prospected from place to place, and having made a somewhat precarious living he returned to Fresno in the spring of 1895. Times were hard and he worked on vineyards for as little as fifty cents a day and board. Later he was employed by the Southern Pacific Railroad for a time.

In the spring of 1896, Mr. Dyreborg rented a vineyard of twenty acres set out to muscat vines. This same year he was married, in Fairfield, Solano County, to Mrs. Maggie Johansen Bidstrup, a native of Bornholm, with whom he had been acquainted in Denmark. He continued to manage a vineyard in the Jefferson district, and he bought crops and made some money during the summer of 1896. He bought his present place of forty acres in the Enterprise Colony for \$1,550, and soon after began to improve it, and moved onto it.

Having laid out the acreage, Mr. Dyreborg built his new residence in 1902, and now has eighteen acres of Malaga grapes, fourteen acres of muscats, and the balance of the tract in orchards and alfalfa, with a fine border



Geo. P. Dyreborg

of fig trees. The ranch is under the Enterprise Canal, and the irrigation is practically perfect. In 1904 he commenced to ship his Malaga grapes and later he was both buying and shipping. He bought eighty-four acres in the Kutner Colony, which he improved with vines, setting out Emperors, muscat and wine grapes, and he has about twenty acres finely improved. He has always supported the various fruit associations, and now belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company. For nine years he was a member of the board of directors of the Fresno-Rochdale Company.

Mr. and Mrs. Dyreborg have three sons: Lewis B., who did his best to win the war; William Stanford and Vernon, all assisting their father. The eldest, Lewis B., served overseas in the Machine Gun Company of the Three Hundred Sixty-first Infantry, U. S. A., and was in the battles of St. Mihiel, Marne, Argonne Forest, Lys, and Scheldt, Belgium. He was honorably discharged as first sergeant.

For years the cheerful home of Mr. and Mrs. Dyreborg has been one of generous hospitality, and in fraternal circles no one is more popular than Mr. Dyreborg, who belongs to Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. E., to the Danish Brotherhood, and the Knights of Pythias, in which organization he has been a member for the last twenty-three years.

OSCAR O. COLLINS.—Oscar O. Collins was born in Springfield, Kans., September 17, 1889, but was brought up in Pueblo, Colo. He attended the University of Colorado and afterwards studied with his father, who was at that time district judge. Mr. Collins came to Fresno in March, 1915, and was admitted to the California bar October 22 of that year. Soon afterward he joined Company K, Second California National Guards, and was with his regiment on the Mexican border in 1916. After a few months the United States Government recalled its soldiers and he returned to Fresno and began the active practice of his profession, making a specialty of civil law, his accurate knowledge of which, and his careful attention to details, enabled him in a short time to build up a fine and lucrative practice. He has his offices at No. 512, Mason Building. On October 2, 1916, Mr. Collins was married to Miss Clara M. Knott, of Oregon.

Mr. Collins was called to the Officers' Training School of the University of California at San Francisco, and put in three months at the Naval Training School. He was honorably discharged after the signing of the Armistice, and arrived home November 20, 1918.

He is a member of the One Hundred Percent. Club, the Commercial Club, the Workmen of the World, and other social organizations, and takes an active interest in everything that pertains to the welfare and growth of Fresno.

MRS. SADIE ELIZABETH SOPER.—A practical viticulturist, who has an unusually fine place and one she may regard with peculiar pride since it is largely the result of her own personal labor in irrigating and cultivating, is Mrs. Sadie Elizabeth Soper, who came to California in the middle nineties. She was born at Mt. Pleasant, Utah, the daughter of Benjamin Keller, a native of Iowa who crossed the plains to Utah and then married Miss Jane Oldham, a native of England, who came out to America and the Mormon country with her parents when she was two years old. Mr. Keller owned a farm in Mt. Pleasant, and in 1883 he moved his family to Kearney, Nebr., where he farmed for four years. Then he went to Lexington, Dawson County, homesteaded and improved 160 acres and, selling out in 1894, came to California. Later he went east to Nebraska and then for five years he was in Oklahoma. After that he settled at Clovis, bought land and improved it, and there his wife died. In time, he married again, and now he resides at Jacksonville, Fla. Thirteen children were born of this marriage, and four girls and two boys are still living.

The subject of our sketch was the second oldest of these, and being reared in Nebraska, she attended the public schools there. In that state also, she was married to J. C. Soper, a native of Des Moines. They owned 160 acres, fourteen miles from Lexington, which they farmed, and having sold this property in 1894, they located in Fresno County. Mr. Soper was in the employ of the Flume Company, grading lumber, and at Clovis, they bought a lot and erected a house. In the meantime, the far-seeing couple bought the ten acres one and a half miles east of Clovis, which they improved with a vineyard. Mr. Soper continued with the Flume Company and his wife did much of the ranch work herself. In time, she had one of the finest muscat vineyards to reward her toil. It is a fine place, and bears the name of Ellendale Vineyard; and her ownership adds interest to her membership in the California Associated Raisin Company.

Mrs. Soper has four children: Frederick Charles, who is in the United States Marines; Luella is Mrs. Barcus, of Barstow; Jane Elizabeth is Mrs. Johnson in Fresno; and her sister, Hazel Marie, who lives near her in the same city, is Mrs. Cummins. The family attends the Baptist Church of Clovis, and Mrs. Soper is a member of the Woman's Aid Society of that congregation. In national politics she is a Democrat, but is non-partisan in local issues.

DR. J. H. ROBINSON.—A prominent member of the medical fraternity of Selma is J. H. Robinson, M. D., who was born on October 1, 1874, at Galion, Crawford County, Ohio, midway between Cleveland and Columbus. His father is J. C. Robinson, a retired, well-to-do Ohio farmer, while his mother was Emma Shumaker before her marriage. This worthy couple have had four children, the three youngest being as follows: G. B. Robinson, a grocer at Galion; Richard, a civil engineer at Minneapolis and manager of a large bridge-building concern; and Carl, who is the proprietor of a moving-picture theater at Galion.

The oldest child in the family, J. H. Robinson grew up in Crawford County, attended the country public schools and worked hard on the farm. He took a preparatory course at the Tri-State Normal at Angola, Ind., and then, for two years, engaged in teaching at West Point, Morrow County, Ohio. There he laid the foundation of that knowledge of human nature which has been of such value to him as a practicing physician. After finishing the preparatory course, Mr. Robinson matriculated at Hiram College, in Hiram, Portage County, Ohio, the same institution made famous by the good work done there as a student by Garfield; and he vigorously pursued a special scientific course leading up to the study of medicine. In the meantime, while in the Normal and while teaching, and also while a student at Hiram and later a student in the medical college, Mr. Robinson went each summer for seven years to Chautauqua, N. Y., and took the Chautauqua courses; and this experience contribute greatly toward his broad and liberal education.

Having entered the medical department of the Ohio State University at Columbus, Mr. Robinson, with characteristic thoroughness, took the regular four years' course, and in 1902 was graduated as assistant to the demonstrator in surgery. During the vacations of the junior and senior years, Mr. Robinson did work as an interne at the Cleveland City Hospital, and he was therefore unusually well equipped when he at last received his coveted diploma.

Dr. Robinson began practicing at Levering, Knox County, Ohio, but selling out, he came west on an extended trip to Los Angeles and Southern California, also visiting Fresno and Selma in the early part of 1900. Later in the season, accompanied by Mrs. Robinson, he visited the northwest and enjoyed the Alaska, Yukon and Pacific Exposition at Seattle, having the good fortune to be present on the opening day there—June first. He was greatly taken with the Pacific Coast, looking over carefully both Washington and Oregon; and he was especially charmed with California, which he revisited.

Most of all, he was fascinated with Selma; and at Selma he determined to pitch his tent.

This decision was reached despite the fact that Dr. Robinson had no relatives or friends here such as are often of great service to a stranger. Excepting for an uncle, in fact, he was the first member of this branch of the Robinson family to locate in California. The uncle was Samuel Robinson, a 49er and for years city ticket agent for the Southern Pacific Railway at Sacramento, who grew up with the state and was widely known, but passed away in 1906. The Robinsons were originally Irish, as has been shown in a most interesting genealogy of the family prepared by the subject's grandfather.

On reaching Selma again, Dr. Robinson opened a suite of well-appointed offices on the second floor of the Dusaw Building at 2031 Second Street, and there he has conducted a general medical practice ever since. As a family physician in particular he has been unusually successful. This extensive practice demands his maintaining both a Ford and a Mitchell car. During his senior year at college, young Robinson was assistant to Dr. Hoover, head surgeon at the medical school, and the experience he thus obtained has finally culminated in his being regarded as not only one of the most active, but one of the ablest members of the County Medical Association.

About three months after his graduation, Dr. Robinson was married to Miss Mary Robertson, a lady of Scotch ancestry and the daughter of J. M. and Annie (Hunter) Robertson. His wife was born at Galt, Canada; and in the Canadian land she grew up and enjoyed the best of educational advantages. One child—Marguerite—blessed this union. In 1913 Dr. Robinson built his bungalow home at No. 2525 McCall Street, Selma, and there he and his family form the center of a large circle of friends.

JOSEPH P. BERNHARD.—The accomplishments of the legal profession in California are exemplified in the person of Joseph P. Bernhard, the well-known attorney of Fresno. A native son, he was born in Mariposa County on November 19, 1873, the son of George Bernhard, one of the Argonauts who reached California in 1849 by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and who having come to seek the elusive gold so recently discovered, immediately began mining and the next year was among the first prospectors and miners in Mariposa County. He continued to dig gold there for many years and experienced both the successes and the failures encountered by thousands of others. When the town of Fresno was started on the new line of the Southern Pacific Railroad running through the valley, however, Mr. Bernhard, in 1874, located there and engaged in mercantile pursuits; and these he followed until his death in 1888, eight years after his wife, Barbara, also a Forty-niner, had preceded him to the other world. She was the mother of seven children, five of whom are still living, the subject of our sketch being the next to the youngest.

Coming to Fresno with his parents the first year of his existence, Joseph Bernhard grew up in the town, which gradually assumed the proportions and character of a city; and there, in its well-conducted schools he received the foundation of his education. On graduating from the Fresno High School in 1892, he entered Leland Stanford, Jr., University, from which he was graduated in 1896, with the degree of A. B. He then matriculated at the New York Law School, and in 1898 was graduated with honors (*cum laude*), receiving the degree of LL.B. He was admitted to the bar of California in the same year, after which he spent two years in San Francisco as associate editor of Rose's U. S. Notes.

In 1900 Mr. Bernhard opened a law office in his home city, Fresno, where his natural and developed ability, his conscientiousness, and his conservative counsel have brought him well-merited success and won for him a large clientèle among the city's best citizens. He is the attorney for the Bank of

Italy, as well as a member of their local advisory board. Always an ardent Republican, he was accorded the chairmanship of the Republican County Central Committee in 1907 and again in 1911.

Mr. Bernhard is a member of the college fraternity Chi Psi, at Stanford, and of the Sunnyside Country Club of Fresno. A prominent Mason, he is a Knight Templar and Shriner, and is chairman of the Committee on Appeals of the Grand Lodge of California, and an honorary thirty-third of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite.

W. W. COATES.—What a man can do when he is really up against it and must either hustle or be trodden under foot by the unfeeling world, is well shown in the interesting story of Deputy Sheriff Coates' career, from precarious boyhood to his present state of assured success. On the fourteenth of August, in the historic Centennial year, he was born near Selma, Fresno County, the son of James B. Coates, who settled here in 1850, when he first came to California by way of the Isthmus, and who having taken up farming at that early date, was always afterward regarded as one of the first settlers of Fresno County. In the beginning, he pitched his tent near Selma with W. J. Berry. Afterwards he went to Alaska with Clarence Berry, the "Klondike King," and together they shared both risks and results. His wife was Luzeta Fanning before her marriage. She accepted pot-luck with her husband in his rough, pioneer life, and passed away in 1882, one of the favored early pioneer women of the Golden State. James B. Coates is still living in Selma, and both fondly and sadly looks back to "the good old days" that will never come again.

The next to the youngest in the family, W. W. Coates was but six years old when his mother died. For a while he went to the public school, but he was early thrown on his own resources, and from that time has had to make his own way. He has done so in a manner creditable to himself, and is truly a self-made man. He soon engaged in business in Fresno, and for eleven years he and his establishment were pleasantly familiar to the people of the town and vicinity. In 1912 he was appointed a deputy sheriff under W. S. McSwain. He was reappointed by Thorwaldson, and again by Sheriff Jones, and is now the oldest deputy in office.

In 1889 Mr. Coates was married to a most attractive lady, Miss Rose Harman, and three children—Jesse, Evalyn and Wesley—have come to bless their home. In 1917 Mr. Coates purchased a beautiful five-acre tract located on Chance Avenue in East Fresno, near the fair grounds, where he resides with his family. Here he finds diversion from his official duties in caring for and growing flowers, berries and vegetables, as well as fancy poultry; and here he and his estimable wife entertain their large circle of friends. Mr. Coates belongs to the Eagles. The family attend the Baptist Church.

JOSEPH S. BRETZ.—Among the early settlers of Fresno County who helped lay the foundation of the present-day prosperity, was the late Joseph S. Bretz, who was born in Pennsylvania and came with his parents to Clayton County, Iowa. In the spring of 1875 he came to Fresno County and was employed at Clipper Mills. Not long afterwards he started making shakes in the same vicinity, and later still, a shingle mill on Pine Ridge. He made trips back to Iowa, and was married in Hardin County, that state, April 29, 1886, to Margaret Ellen Lepley, born in Knoxville, Hardin County, Ohio, a daughter of Valentine and Margaret (Scott) Lepley, natives of Ohio, who were pioneers of Hardin County, Iowa. After his marriage Mr. Bretz located permanently in Fresno County, purchasing the shingle mill from Mr. Beard, and established the Bretz mill one mile east of Ockenden, where he manufactured shingles, shakes and posts; meantime he bought a ranch near Tollhouse and there he resided when he died, October 25, 1911. He was an Odd Fellow. Four children were born of this union: Edward and Frank who continue the business and run the Bretz mill; Estella, who lives at home; and Lulu, Mrs.



G. Brooks

Hauert of Clovis. Mrs. Bretz is now one of the oldest settlers on Pine Ridge and still makes her home at Tollhouse.

Bretz Mill is one of the oldest mills still being operated on Pine Ridge. The family own 1,160 acres of timber, which they manufacture into shingles, shakes and posts. They indorse and follow the plan of the government in leaving seed trees for reforestation. Bretz Brothers believe the plan should be made compulsory and enforced by the government.

The children were all born in Fresno County. Edward Bretz is married to Mary E. Hauert and they have four children: Louis, Robert, Bessie and Merriam. The family now make their residence in Fresno. Frank Bretz married Miss Wilma L. Hauert and they have three children—Donald, Verne and Chester. He resides at the old Bretz home near Tollhouse. Both boys are members of the Woodmen of the World. Frank is one of the trustees of Pleasant Vale school district, and Edward is a trustee of Pine Ridge district.

GUSTAV HENRY BROCKS.—A man who, through his optimism, saw the possibilities of the soil of Fresno County for intensive farming and who has labored in that direction, is Gustav Henry Brocks, who came to California in the early nineties. His father was Henry Brocks, a farmer of thrift and experience in Enger, Germany, where he owned a farm and lived upon it until his death in 1879, aged thirty-five years. His wife was Hermina Kruse before her marriage in the country of her birth, and she died in 1896, aged forty-two. She was the mother of three children by her marriage with Mr. Brocks, and Gustav H. was the second oldest and the only son.

Born at Enger, Westphalia, February 26, 1875, Gustav Henry Brocks was reared in his native land and educated in the German schools until he was seventeen, when he left home for America, arriving here in September, 1892. He at once came to the Pacific Coast, and in Fresno County found employment in a vineyard. He was frugal, and when he was twenty he made his first purchase of land, which was located in Eggers Colony and consisted of twenty acres. Since then he has been successfully engaged in horticultural pursuits and his well-kept ranch on National Avenue shows the enterprise and thrift of the owner.

Mr. Brocks was married in Fresno to Martha Werner, a native of Halle, Germany, who came to this country with her parents. Of this union four children have been born, three of whom are living: Gertrude, Henry and Edith, all of whom have had the advantages of the public schools of Fresno. Mr. Brocks is one of the original members of the first cooperative California Raisin Growers Association, now the California Associated Raisin Company, and the Melvin Grape Growers Association.

BENJAMIN NORTH.—Just across the border in the province of Quebec, Canada, Mr. North was born on November 6, 1879. His father died when the boy was but a year and a half old, and while he was still young, the mother came to California and settled at Madera. There they remained only for six months, and then came to Fresno, where Ben North, as he is familiarly known, grew up, attending the public schools of Fresno and completing all but his senior year in the Fresno High School. The mother, Mary Thomas North, still lives in Fresno, at 2959 McKenzie Street.

Early in life Mr. North began to work, being employed at various odd jobs in different occupations. At twenty-one he went back to his old Canadian home, and from 1900 to 1905 worked in pulp mills in Eastern Canada. He learned the paper-pulp business thoroughly in his five years' experience, but returned to Fresno again, this time with a wife, having married Miss Eva Masters, a native of Canada, in the province of Quebec. He secured employment with the San Joaquin Light & Power Company as storekeeper, remaining with this company for a year and a half, and then went to Goldfield, Nev., where he stayed a year. Returning to Fresno for a few days, he then went to Spokane Wash., where for fourteen months he

was employed by the Washington Water Company as station operator. Coming back to Fresno, he was reemployed by the San Joaquin Light & Power Company until he bought a half interest in the store at Clotho, Fresno County. This was a store for general merchandise, and he continued there for fourteen months, when he sold and went to Lone Star, where he likewise conducts a general merchandise store, the only one in Lone Star, and by close application to business is building up a good trade. His extensive travels and the various occupations he has followed have fitted him in a special manner for his work, and he has a natural aptitude for making and holding friends.

There are three children in the family, Wilmuth, Helen and Billy, who are general favorites.

THOMAS JACKSON SIMPSON.—One of the native sons of Fresno, Thomas Jackson Simpson, is a son of John Greenup Simpson, a pioneer of 1850, who came from Missouri across the plains via the southern route, on horseback and with pack animals, when seventeen years of age. He was accompanied by ex-Governor Edwards of Missouri. The winter of 1850-51 was spent in New Mexico, the westward trip being renewed in the spring, when in due time they arrived in Stockton. Mr. Simpson worked at teaming in the city until 1855, when he removed to Millerton and engaged in the livery business for three years. He then sold out and embarked in the stock business with J. N. Musick as a partner. This association was continued until 1861, at which time the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Simpson continued the stock business alone until his death. In 1856 he was in the Indian campaign in Tulare County, and in every way took an active part in the pioneer work of the state. His death, at the age of forty-seven, was much regretted by all who had known him. He was one of the first stockmen to locate on Dry Creek, and served as a supervisor in the early days of the county. He purchased land at what is now Academy, and before his death had become the owner of almost 6,000 acres. He was one of the builders of the academy on Dry Creek, being a director of the company. This school was for years one of the best in the state. Mr. Simpson was an Odd Fellow and in politics a staunch Democrat. His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah M. Baley, was a native of Missouri and a daughter of Wm. R. Baley, a brother of Judge Gillum Baley, who came to California in 1849. Mr. Baley crossed the plains and settled in Visalia and was engaged in teaming between that place and Stockton. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson both died in Fresno County. They were parents of seven children: Mary K., who married Henry Hazelton and is now deceased; William, who met an accidental death by drowning while in bathing in the canal near Sanger; Thomas J., the subject of this sketch; Marvin of Sanger; John G. of Fresno, and George P. of Fresno, and Lizzie, the wife of John Fly of Exeter.

Thomas J. Simpson was born July 13, 1866. His early life was spent on the ranch, while his education was obtained in the school at Academy. He was a lad of eleven years when his father died and from that time until he left home he took an active part in the work on the home place. At the age of twenty he started out to make his own way in the world, beginning as a sheep raiser on leased land fourteen miles west of Fresno. In 1886 he bought 500 head of sheep from Mr. Birch, a partner of John Baley, the partnership of Baley and Simpson thus formed continuing for two years, when Mr. Baley sold out to William R. Simpson. In 1889, T. J. Simpson sold out to his brother William R. At that time they owned some 5,000 head. Mr. Simpson then became interested in the cattle business, and a little later established his brand, PL, which is well known all through the cattle country. He has 1,550 acres of land on Dry Creek, which is all fenced and improved and here he is engaged in stock raising and is very successful. Mr. Simpson devotes the greater part of his time to his cattle interests, his range being located in the Sierras, about 40 miles from Fresno.

In Academy Mr. Simpson married, January 6, 1889, Miss Eleanor Ant Perry, born in Fresno County, a daughter of Peter Perry, who settled in the county in pioneer days and began farming on Kings River. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson have the following children: Edwin R. is assisting Mr. Simpson as well as raising cattle on his own account; Ina May is Mrs. Charles H. Vencill and resides in Fresno; Thomas Russell attended the University of California until he enlisted in the United States Army and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the One Hundred Fourteenth Engineers, he was honorably discharged and is again at the University of California; Hugh, also assisting his father at ranching; Annie Laurie; Mary Elizabeth; Ruth; Robert Lee; Sarah Margaret; and Jack Tupper.

Mr. and Mrs. Simpson are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Mr. Simpson being a member of the official board. In politics he is a Democrat. At all times he has ever been found willing to perform the duties of a citizen. His success in life has been the result of his own endeavors and he is considered one of the substantial men of Fresno County.

W. L. OLINGER.—A hardy Missouri boy who has become an influential and most successful Californian rancher in his own name and right, on one of the small "show-places" in the county, is W. L. Olinger, who lives with his good wife and family on his forty-acre ranch one mile west and half a mile north of Del Rey. Not long ago he built a stucco residence, and those who have seen it declare it to be ideal for its purpose. Mr. Olinger came to Del Rey, at that time called Clifton, in the fall of 1890; and since then he has witnessed the working of more than one miracle in the marvelous development of Central California.

W. L. Olinger was born the day before Christmas, in 1864, in Cooper County, Mo., the very day when the nation was being electrified by the successful bombardment of Fort Fisher by the Federal fleet. Soon after, his parents, Jesse and Mary (Armstrong) Olinger, removed to a town called Pleasant Hope, about twenty miles north of Springfield. His father was a school teacher and a musician, making a specialty of the violin and vocal music, and taught in public schools for forty years. When he died, he had reached the age of seventy-six, and then lived at Hazelton, Kans., where he was notary public and mayor. He had moved to that city in 1902. Mrs. Olinger, the mother of our subject, died when he was only five years of age. She left two other sons and two daughters; and through his father's second marriage Mr. Olinger came to have a half-sister. One of his sisters is now Mrs. Laura Jane Fullerton, and lives in Los Angeles. An older brother, James B., who was once the owner of the Olinger place, died on March 10, 1903, and W. L. Olinger bought the property. This brother James came here in 1880 as one of the first settlers in the neighborhood, and had much to do with Mr. Olinger's decision to follow him hither.

W. L. Olinger worked on his father's farm until he was twenty-one, and then worked out on farms and rented land for himself until 1890, when he decided to come West. Having arrived safely, he entered the service of Capt. S. D. Hopper. The latter had a fine ranch, where there was a good opportunity to learn local methods of agriculture. He stayed with the captain for five years, and then worked for his brother a year.

Until 1896 Mr. Olinger continued to work out by the month, and then he went back to Missouri, where he was to marry Miss Susie A. Davenport. She was born near Pleasant Hope, in that state, the daughter of W. A. Davenport, the pioneer. On account of the new domestic ties Mr. Olinger did not immediately return to the West, but bought fifty-two acres of Missouri land, where he built a house and established his home. After the death of his brother, in 1903, he came back to the Golden State and bought his ranch, closing out his Missouri farm interests, and bringing along his wife and two children, with all their personal belongings. Now he has a

fine ranch with thirty acres planted to Thompson's seedless grapes, five acres to muscats, and two acres to alfalfa; while three acres are given up to buildings, yard and environment. Mr. Olinger is a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Olinger: James Rosseau, William Bernal, and Shannon Davenport. Mr. Olinger has always been fond of music, and his youngest child, Shannon, has inherited his penchant for the art. Although only eight years old, he plays both popular and classic music with ease, and is a member of the Sunday school orchestra. Mr. and Mrs. Olinger belong to the Baptist Church in Del Rey, to which they give their hearty support, gladly participating in all worthy religious or moral endeavor to improve and brighten human lives.

FRED. ANDERSON.—Influential as one of the pioneers of the Scandinavian Colony, Fresno County, esteemed by competitors as a progressive and successful horticulturist, and liked by everyone as a genial and winsome gentleman, Frederick Anderson, who came to Fresno County in the late seventies, was born at Gothenberg, Sweden, in 1833, and there learned the cabinet-maker's trade, in time extending his practice to carpentering. Crossing the ocean, he reached San Francisco and later San Jose; and there he was married to Balbina Folmer, a native of Württemberg, Germany, who had come to the United States with her mother in the troublous year of 1848.

After his marriage, Mr. Anderson continued in San Francisco for a while and worked at his trade; but wishing to engage in farming, he became interested in Fresno County, and in 1879 moved here. He purchased sixty acres in the Scandinavian Colony, and as rapidly as was possible he improved the land, soon having a fine vineyard that was much admired. Without difficulty, he sold off forty acres; and upon the remaining twenty he resided until he died in 1908, at the age of seventy-five. Mrs. Anderson, the widow, thereafter resided with her daughter, Mrs. Arthur W. Allen; and she died at Fresno in February, 1911.

Four children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson. Otto is a farmer at Barstow, in this county; Emma has become Mrs. M. Coppin, of the National Colony; Laura is Mrs. Albert Nelson of the Granville district; while Ida is Mrs. Arthur W. Allen, just referred to.

JOHN C. GRAFF.—A rancher of exceptional worth is John C. Graff, the son of John H. Graff and the nephew of the late Hans Graff. His father was distinguished for scientific and thoroughly up-to-date methods in agriculture, and his uncle was one of the most successful merchants and best-liked men in all Fresno.

The third son and fourth child in the family, Mr. Graff was born in San Francisco on February 4, 1889, and was only three years old when his parents came to Fresno County. At first they settled at Oleander, but in 1901 came to the old home place. There the lad grew up on the farm, one of six brothers and sisters; and he still has a younger brother and a younger sister. He attended the public schools of Fowler and availed himself of such opportunities as came his way for self-culture and advancement. At the age of fifteen he was working out for his uncle; and next he went into the United States Navy, at Mare Island, and worked in the navy yard for two years. After a while he boarded a naval auxiliary ship carrying coal, ammunition and provisions; but at the end of seven months of that experience, he came back to the ranch. For a couple of years, beginning in 1910, he worked for wages for his father.

In 1912 Mr. Graff was married to Miss Millicent Gower, a native of Fresno County and a daughter of Edwin and Cora (Perkins) Gower, ranchers, who owned an attractive home three miles northeast of Fowler. One daughter, Rosamond, has blessed this union.



Emil Nelson

At the old home ranch, which for some time he rented from his father, Mr. Graff had a choice vineyard of forty acres, together with an orchard, where he devoted ten acres to peaches, seven acres to Thompson's Seedless, already in bearing, two and a half acres to young Thompsons, seven acres to sultanas, and eight acres to muscats. The balance of the property is given up to alfalfa, yards, etc. Altogether, the ranch is one of the best of its size for miles around. On April 1, 1919, the ranch was sold, and now Mr. Graff is looking for a suitable location.

Fond of social intercourse, Mr. Graff is particularly at home in the circles of the Odd Fellows, with which society he is affiliated through the lodge at Fowler. He has a keen interest in civic affairs, and takes pride in faithfully performing his duty as a citizen. Mrs. Graff actively seconds her husband in good works, and both have participated in the various efforts incidental to supporting the Government and relieving suffering during the progress of the Great War.

EMIL NELSON.—Among the enterprising sons of Sweden, who have located in California and have achieved success in their chosen line, is Emil Nelson, who not only won the reputation of being the best cement contractor in Vinland, Barstow, Empire and Kerman districts, but has demonstrated his ability as a rancher by successfully engaging in horticulture and viticulture.

Emil Nelson was born in the old province of Skane (or Scania), near Engelholm, Sweden, on January 24, 1884, the son of Nels Anderson, a farmer and dairyman. When eighteen years of age he served the required time in the Swedish Army, being assigned to the field artillery. Following the example of so many of his fellow countrymen, as soon as his service in the army was completed, he sailed for the United States of America, locating first at Denver, Colo.; and four months later he continued his journey westward, arriving in Oakland, Cal., where he secured employment with Blake and Bilger, cement contractors, and learned the business of cement construction. In 1906, Mr. Nelson took a trip to Nome, Alaska, where he spent one summer, later returning to Oakland and resuming work with the same firm, and continuing in this employ for five years.

In 1910, Mr. Nelson began business for himself, doing all kinds of cement construction work, and so well did he execute his contracts that his patrons were more than pleased and he soon established a reputation for doing the best cement construction in this part of the county. It was but the just reward for his conscientious workmanship that he should receive the contract for the cement work at the Kerman Union High School and other schools in this section.

In 1904, when Mr. Nelson first came to California, he was urged to buy sixty acres of land at forty dollars per acre, at the opening sale in the Vinland district, but at that time it did not appeal to him as good investment. Three years later, realizing that he had made a mistake by not purchasing in 1904, he came to Fresno and bought twenty acres at Vinland, paying seventy dollars per acre. Just after he had contracted to buy the land a party from Oregon offered to purchase it at \$100 per acre. This made him eager to improve his land and also assured him that he had acted wisely in purchasing at this time. After setting out an orchard and vineyard he located on the ranch in 1914, and leased forty acres of fruit land adjoining, which he operated one year in connection with his ranch.

Possessing those commendable traits of his fellow countrymen, economy and industry, Mr. Nelson saved sufficient money to be able to make loans on two tracts of twenty acres each. One of the places, being for sale, he purchased, and removed to it, thus doubling the size of his holdings. He installed a pumping-plant with a Commercial twenty-horsepower engine, and a six-inch pump with a capacity of 1,000 gallons per minute, which furnishes ample water to irrigate his ranch. About eleven acres are devoted to peaches

which include the Lovell, Muir and Elberta varieties; three acres to cling-stone peaches, and five to muscat grapes, that are nine years old, and yield on an average one and a half tons to an acre. In this locality, muscat grapes had previously been considered as a failure, until Mr. Nelson, after two years of experimenting, proved that irrigation would increase the yield from two-thirds of a ton to one and a half tons per acre. In addition to his vineyard of muscats, he has five acres of Thompson seedless grapes and two acres of apricots, the rest of the land being devoted to raising alfalfa.

Emil Nelson is highly esteemed in his community and is commended for his progressive spirit and upright business principles. He is a member of both the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company. Mr. Nelson belongs to the Lutheran Church at Vinland, of which organization he is secretary of the official board.

WILLIAM ALBERTUS AKERS.—A native of Texas, William A. Akers was born near Austin, June 2, 1844, the son of Henry and Delia (Miller) Akers, natives of Kentucky. Coming to Fresno County, Cal., in 1852, he lived on Kings River, above Centerville and when he reached his majority engaged in stock-raising in that section of the county. In 1874 he married Katherine Findley, a native daughter and about that date he bought a ranch in Drumms Valley, this county, where he operated as a stockman till 1880 and then engaged in viticulture and horticulture at Centerville. In 1910 he purchased a ranch on Los Gatos Creek and is now engaged in cattle raising with his two sons, Wade Hampton and George Stoneman, ranging their herds over ten sections of land.

Mr. Akers is today one of the oldest settlers in the county, having resided in the county for sixty-seven years and has seen the wonderful changes and helped in its transformation from the barren plains to a most productive and intensively cultivated county. He is one of the few remaining pioneers who can tell the early trials and hardships of the noble and brave women of those early days.

JOHN W. JONES.—A hard-working, level-headed man, fortunate in the devoted assistance of his wide-awake and excellent wife, and now a successful rancher well on the way to an ample competency, is John W. Jones, the owner of two ranches on Lincoln Avenue, near Fowler. They have rebuilt their dwelling house on the home ranch, and have a neat and attractive residence, to which their only child, a noble son just honorably discharged from his country's service, came safely home from France.

Born on March 16, 1870, at Dunbarton, in Adams County, Ohio, John Jones was the son of Jasper Jones, a tenant farmer, who married Mary Gray, by whom he had four sons, our subject being the second. The father came from Tennessee and the mother from Ohio, and both parents died in the latter state. John is the only one to come to California, the other three boys having remained in Ohio. John worked around on farms from his seventeenth year; and when twenty-two he went to Peoria County, Ill., and worked there on farms. In that county too, in 1892, he married an Ohio girl, Miss Emma Cornelius, and for twelve years rented a farm there, after which he bought a small farm near by and worked it for the next three years with success.

In 1906 Mr. and Mrs. Jones took the important step and came to California, where Mr. Jones found work for D. S. McCollough near Fowler. At the end of a year he bought twenty acres, but soon sold the same. In 1913 he purchased his present place of twenty acres, constituting the home farm, one and a half miles north of Fowler; and in 1919 he bought the second twenty, half a mile west of the home ranch. His experience in farming, together with that of his good wife, and their combined industry and thrift, have made of the one ranch, and will be sure to make of the other, a pleasing and inspiring sight to all interested in up-to-date farming.

The one living child spared to this worthy couple is Paul M. Jones, a graduate of the Fowler High School and a member of the Class of '17. He volunteered for active service in defense of his country, and enlisted at Fresno on June 2, 1918, when he was assigned to Headquarters, Company 81, Light Field Artillery. He trained at Camp Fremont and Fort Sill, and at Camp Mills on Long Island, N. Y.; and on November 2, 1918, he sailed for France on the Cunarder Aquitania, landing seven days later at Brest. From that port he reembarked on January 4, 1919, and landed at Hoboken on January 18, after which his regiment was demobilized at Camp Knox in Kentucky. There, on the 19th of February he was honorably discharged, and four days later he arrived home at Fowler.

Mr. Jones is a Republican, and as such works hard for an improved and elevated electorate; but he is broad-minded enough to put his shoulder to the wheel, when it is necessary, and work for local improvements apart from party affiliations. He and his wife are members of the United Presbyterian Church at Fowler, and both stand for clean living and encourage worthwhile charities.

R. HANSEN.—The genial host, owner and manager of the Corbly Hotel, at Del Rey, Fresno County, Mr. R. Hansen, who has satisfactorily catered to the public at this popular hostelry during the past seven years, possesses the happy faculty of making everybody welcome, which is indeed an art. He always has a smile for the care-worn, a word of sympathy for the despondent, a comforting message for the sorrowing, a cheerful smile for all; and besides all these splendid requisites he is an efficient cook. The table at the Corbly Hotel is always supplied with the best products of the season, and the bill of fare is always temptingly prepared. The hotel has accommodations for seventy-five guests, while the table capacity is much greater.

Mr. Hansen is a native of Denmark, where he first saw the light of day in 1871, his parents being R. and Sine Hansen, also natives of Denmark. Their family consisted of nine children, but R. Hansen is the only member of the family living. He immigrated to the United States in 1891, arriving on December 23, and came directly to Sanger, Cal. After laboring at Sanger for some years he had by economical habits saved enough money to pay for a trip back to Denmark to visit the scenes of his childhood, where he remained five years. After his return to the United States he spent two years in the East, but of all the places he visited he found none that could compare in climate and business opportunities with Fresno County.

On March 1, 1903, R. Hansen was united in marriage with Miss Marie Jakobsen, a native of Denmark. This union has been blessed with four children: Christian, Arthur, Agnes, and Sigfred. Fraternally, Mr. Hansen is a member of the Danish Brotherhood.

J. A. SELF.—Mr. Self was born in Pope County, Mo., near Springfield, October 25, 1881. He was the oldest child in a family of eight, three girls and five boys. His parents were W. H. and Elizabeth (Olinger) Self. Although he received a grammar school education, while he was a mere lad he was called upon to work on his father's farm, following the plow and otherwise laying the foundation upon which he is rearing a splendid structure of success.

When twenty-one years of age, Mr. Self came to California. On January 1, 1903, he married Miss Ida M. Walker, in Polk County, Mo., and on March 7, of the same year, he arrived in Sacramento. For three years he worked for A. C. Morris, at Knight's Landing, and from there went to Humboldt County, where both he and his wife sought employment in a lumber camp. He followed ranching for a season, when he had an opportunity to learn the blacksmith trade. After following the trade for a time, however, he decided to enter the employ of Minor Brothers, at Glendale, Humboldt

County, where he worked in their sawmill. Here he was soon called to fire the boilers, and became head fireman.

Mr. Self now owns a farm of thirty acres, one and a quarter miles west of Del Rey, near the prairie schoolhouse. In addition to caring for this, he has rented a farm of fifty acres from Mary B. Williams. His success is due to his untiring energy and the intelligent use of a body that seems to know no fatigue. In fact he is credited with being one of the greatest workers that ever came to Fresno County. He is a most agreeable man, and has not forgotten to cultivate his social qualities as well as his soil. His success has been won entirely by himself, for, while his father is a well-to-do farmer in Missouri, no help from him has been asked or received.

This sketch would not be considered complete by Mr. Self if it failed to give his wife the credit due her for the part she has contributed to his success. In everything she has been ready to second the efforts of her husband. A loving mother and a devoted wife, she has made for herself a place in social circles, and is a recognized factor in the general welfare of the community.

LOUIS GEORGE SEQUEIRA.—Among the progressive and successful business men of Fresno, Louis George Sequeira has become well-known as a man of adaptability and initiative, and a willing worker for the upbuilding of Fresno and Fresno County. Born in the Azores Islands, September 27, 1865, he came to America in 1882, landing at Boston, Mass. After his arrival, he came direct to California and Fresno County. He found his first employment on the William Allen ranch, in Helm Colony, and there learned the sheep business. Later he followed that business for a number of years for himself. He then worked for the Sanger Lumber Company, at Sanger, for three years.

Mr. Sequeira early became a firm believer in the future prosperity of Fresno County, and bought and developed ranches for several years, his last ranch, which he sold in 1912, being located three miles east of Caruthers, and consisted of forty acres, in vines and peaches, with some of the acreage devoted to alfalfa. He bought and sold real estate in Fresno, and met with unusual success in his various developing enterprises. For sixteen years Mr. Sequeira ran a grocery store here, on the corner of E and Tuolumne streets. His present business, of which he is sole owner and proprietor, is the Murray Cabinet and Show Case Company, located on E Street, between Fresno and Merced streets. He purchased this establishment February 2, 1918, and it is the largest factory of the kind between San Francisco and Los Angeles. The business is housed in a modern brick building and seven men are employed in manufacturing showcases and store fixtures to order, and a fine stock of this merchandise is carried on hand at all times. With a growing business, which he handles in an efficient and most capable manner, Mr. Sequeira has made a place for himself in the business life of Fresno. During all his years of residence here he has been a liberal and willing contributor in all projects which have for their object the advancement of his town and county. Besides his many interests here, he is the owner of valuable real estate in Van Nuys, Los Angeles County.

The marriage of Mr. Sequeira, February 13, 1893, at Selma, united him with Rosa Calderia, a native of Alvarado, Alameda County, Cal., and five children have been born to them, as follows: Josephine, wife of Frank Manfredi; Mary, employed in the Fresno office of the Santa Fe Railway; Louis, manager of Murray Cabinet and Show Case Co.; Antone, graduate of Fresno High School and now attending law department of University of California; and Rosie, attending the Fresno High School. Fraternally, Mr. Sequeira is a charter member and past president of the Fresno Lodge of I. D. E. S., and he also is a member of the U. P. E. C. of Fresno, and is an active member of the Merchants Association.



Louis George Sequeira
Rosa George Sequeira

JOHN J. WALSH.—A well known and highly respected citizen of Reedley, Cal., since 1906, John J. Walsh was one of the first to take up land in Merritt Colony. His purchase proved a wise one and his development of the place has produced satisfactory results. He planted peach trees, vines and alfalfa, and made many improvements on the place, including a fine home which he erected in 1918, of cement building blocks. He is now replacing the peach trees and alfalfa with figs and vines.

John J. Walsh was born in Australia on July 11, 1863. His parents migrated to the United States in 1867 and John J. received his education in the public schools of this country. He learned the trade of a harnessmaker and traveled over thirty-eight states as a journeyman. After he came to Reedley and had planted his vines and fruit trees, he very advantageously resumed his old-time business of a harnessmaker and so gained a living while his trees were growing and he so continued until his crops were large enough to depend upon. He has installed an irrigating system at the cost of over \$1,800. It includes a well eighty feet deep, with a pit thirty-five feet deep, with pumping facilities for 450 gallons per minute. With the development of this section his ranch has greatly increased in value.

In 1901, John J. Walsh was united in marriage with Miss Edna Brenner, a native of Kansas, and they are the parents of four children: Agnes A.; John L.; Francis; and Edna T. Mr. Walsh belongs to the raisin, peach and fig growers associations. He is appraiser of the Federal Loan Association of Berkeley, for the Reedley branch.

PERCY N. WARNER.—The enterprising proprietor of the Warner Cement Works of Reedley, Cal., is P. N. Warner, born in Marion County, Iowa, September 1, 1876, the Centennial year of the independence of the United States of America.

His parents were Austin and Lavina (Scoles) Warner who, in 1891, with their three sons, migrated to California. P. N. Warner was the youngest boy of the family and was reared in his native county, and educated in the public schools up to the time of his coming to California. After his arrival in the Golden State he attended the high school of Berkeley, from which institution he was graduated in 1903. Subsequently he pursued a course in engineering in the University of California at Berkeley, which especially fitted him for the management of his present business. While living in Los Angeles and before engaging in business for himself, Mr. Warner was in the employ of the Los Angeles Railway Company, afterwards he worked for the Pacific Electric as an engineer. For eighteen months he was assistant engineer to Harry Stafford, city engineer of Los Angeles, and then served as assistant city electrician for a short time. In 1901 and 1902 he was employed in San Francisco as engineer for the Independent Light and Power Company. Wherever he was engaged he always rendered efficient service and gained the esteem of his employers. His experience in the cement business was gained while working for a cement contractor in Los Angeles and this practical knowledge has contributed to his success in Reedley.

In 1910 there was established at Reedley, Fresno County, the firm of Cary & Warner, and this concern has grown with the development of the city and surrounding country. In 1914, Mr. Warner bought out his partner and has continued alone. Mr. Warner evolved the idea of using compressed air in the manufacture of cement pipe, by watching the results of air as applied to hard rock drilling and riveting. The appliance was made to comply with the requirements of making pipe, and has been developed to such an extent that he now manufactures everything in the cement pipe line. He was the first man in the United States so to use compressed air, and now the United States Department of Agriculture uses his pipe as the standard for grade of cement pipe. It is claimed that this process has brought the

manufacture of pipe to the highest standard possible. His plant began with a capacity of 350 feet per day which was increased to 5,000 feet, and the average is about 1,500 feet per day. His pipe range in size from six to forty-two inches. The reputation of his product is rapidly spreading and he fills orders throughout Tulare, Merced and Madera Counties, besides his trade in Fresno County, which is extensive.

In 1901, P. N. Warner was united in marriage with Minnie Headley, a daughter of S. R. Headley, a merchant in New Jersey. They are the parents of two children: Juliaette and Eva Louise. Mr. Warner is now serving on the board of trustees of Reedley Grammar School. He is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. During the war he served at Reedley on the Fresno County Council of Defense and on the local Exemption Board.

CHARLES KIRMOND.—England has furnished the United States with many able citizens who have become prominent in professional, commercial and agricultural circles. One such is C. Kirmond, of this memoir, a native of England, having been born at Grimsby, Lincolnshire, September 20, 1869, the son of John and Harriett (French) Kirmond, who were also natives of the British Isles. The family of John and Harriett Kirmond consisted of five children, C. Kirmond being the only member of the family in California.

In 1909, C. Kirmond immigrated to this country, and is now one of the most progressive farmers of the Mount Olive district, near Reedley, Cal., where, in conjunction with A. Oakley, he owns thirty-one and one-half acres of land devoted to raising olives. They purchased this tract of land in 1910, it being originally known as the old California Vineyard, Lots 21 and 22. Their olive trees range in age from two to eighteen years. The land is very productive and is in a high state of cultivation.

In March, 1896, C. Kirmond was united in marriage with Miss Mary Alice Moss, a daughter of Ellis and Mary Moss, also natives of England. This union was blessed with one son, Harry, who entered the artillery branch of the United States Army, having enlisted in August, 1917. His merit was soon recognized by his promotion to First Sergeant. He served in France several months, was discharged and is now visiting in England, where he was born.

When Mr. and Mrs. Kirmond immigrated to this country, in 1909, to their credit it can be said, they came without means or friends. Since their arrival in the country of their adoption, they have, by energetic efforts, thrifty habits and judicious management, accumulated a competency, and are highly esteemed in their community. They have become staunch American citizens and in proof of their fidelity to the country of their adoption, they gave their only son in its defense, "to make the world safe for Democracy."

ADOLPH G. BORCHARDT.—In 1903, A. G. Borchardt became identified with the history of Fresno County, and was one of the first persons to purchase a twenty-acre ranch in the Poppy Colony. He is an American-born citizen of German parentage, and is a true and loyal supporter of the United States under all circumstances. He was born at Agawam, near Springfield, Mass., in 1861, the son of Gustave and Sophia Borchardt, who were the parents of two children: Mrs. Ackerman, who resides in Springfield, Mass.; and Adolph G. In 1881, Mr. Borchardt, after following the sea for a few years, went to Gardiner, Maine, where he engaged in the general merchandise business until he sold out to come to California. The father, Gustave Borchardt, has passed away; the mother is still living in Agawam, Mass., where she is the owner of property.

After purchasing his ranch of twenty acres in the Poppy Colony, Fresno County, Cal., Mr. Borchardt began improving it and in due time brought the place up to a high state of cultivation, having set it out to vines and

fruits. In 1911 he sold the ranch and purchased forty acres of raw land situated four miles west of Sanger, but he resides at De Wolf Station, on the Santa Fe railway. Though this was unimproved land when he purchased it, through perseverance and energetic effort he has made of it a productive ranch, devoted to plums, peaches, and alfalfa, and has built a fine residence, which is both convenient and commodious. In 1913 he sold twenty acres on the east at a satisfactory advance. The ranch is a model of neatness in appearance, and bespeaks thrift, prosperity and judicious management.

In 1882, A. G. Borchardt was united in marriage with Miss Linnie Hall, a native of Maine and the daughter of Judson and Adelaide Hall, of Nobleboro, Maine. Twelve children were born of this happy union, ten of whom are living: Estella; Harold, who is married and lives in Louisville, Ky., and who was in training at Camp Taylor, Ky., until discharged; and Mildred, Barbara, Dorothea, Floyd, Gertrude, Evelyn, Paul, and Norma. Fraternally, Mr. Brochardt is a Mason, a member of the Lodge, Chapter and Commandery at Gardiner, Maine. He is a progressive and enterprising rancher and is held in high esteem in the community where he resides.

CHARLES McBRIDE.—Determination looms large as a factor in success, and tends to develop an aptitude for one's calling that may not have been noticeable at first. Combined, these two factors are sure to bring success, and when they are coupled with energy and industrious application nothing can stand in their way. This has been strikingly shown in the career of Charles McBride, who owns a well-improved forty-acre ranch on Jensen Avenue, a half mile north of Lone Star, Fresno County, Cal. This ranch is devoted to the raising of raisin grapes, a work in which he finds ample opportunity for the use of his natural inclination toward viticulture.

Charles McBride was born in Monroe County, Mo., March 16, 1867, a son of John and Georgia (Hollingsworth) McBride. He had the advantages of the common schools, and early in life became possessed of the idea of accumulating some property of his own. He worked out on raisin ranches in Fresno County, and in the oil fields at Coalinga. Work in the vineyards appealed most to him, and he has been more than ordinarily successful as a vineyardist. In 1903 he engaged in the livery stable business at Fresno. It was not until 1915 that he bought his present forty-acre ranch, which he now operates and where he makes his home. In the meantime he has bought, improved and sold four different places in Fresno County. He is a man whose friendship is prized on account of his strength of character and unswerving principles of right. He believes in honesty and integrity in public as well as in private business, and is known as a man who practices what he believes. An advocate of a clean life, he is active in temperance work and in the dissemination of the doctrine of clean and economical government in local, state and national affairs. In politics he lines up with the Democratic party, and is a staunch supporter of the present administration. As an inspector and solicitor for the Raisin Growers' Association, Mr. McBride is most highly regarded, and his counsel is sought after by all who come in contact with him. Nature has endowed him with a large and strong body, together with an active and alert mind, and these, with a pleasing personality make him justly popular.

In 1897, Mr. McBride married Miss Lena Baldwin, a stepdaughter of James Finch, and she has contributed her share towards the success they together have achieved. They are the parents of two children: Dwight, a student of the Easton High School, and Audrey. Just in the prime of life, Mr. and Mrs. McBride are enjoying the fruits of industry and frugality, and can view with satisfaction both the results already accomplished and the prospects for the future.

LEROY RAMACHER.—An enterprising citizen and well-known stock-raiser and viticulturist, who is fortunate in having an enthusiastic companion for a wife, the two forming just such a kind-hearted and liberal couple as any community would be proud to number in its citizenry, is Leroy Ramacher, a popular member of the California Associated Raisin Company, whose ranch lies about ten miles east of Fresno, and is watered by the Red Bank Creek. He was born in Linton, Greene County, Ind., on September 11th of the year made memorable as the centenary of our nation's growth, and his father was Henry Ramacher who brought his family to California in 1884, and himself became a well-to-do and prominent farmer and vineyardist in the Kutner Colony. The father was always a strong supporter of education and everything that made for the upbuilding of the community, and now resides comfortably in Fresno, having retired on a competency. His life-story also adorns this work.

Leroy was the eldest of eight children and came to California with his parents, arriving in Fresno on May 10, 1884. He was educated in the public schools of the Sentinel and Scandinavian districts, and later learned farming and viticulture while assisting his father on his present ranch. There he helped set out vineyards, and also assisted in caring for them. In 1902 he was in the employ of Joe Bretz at his shingle mill, and after a year there, he went with the Pine Ridge Lumber Company as foreman in charge of the box factory. He stuck to that post of detailed responsibility for seven long years, and resigned only because he had resolved to engage in farming.

In 1913, Mr. Ramacher purchased sixty-five acres of his father's old ranch in Kutner Colony, where he continued farming and viticulture. About twenty-six acres have been set out as a vineyard with muscat, Tokay and Malaga vines, and the balance is devoted to alfalfa and the raising of grain. He is making a specialty of raising hogs, and already has a promising growing herd and so is meeting with deserved success. He is very industrious, as well as far-seeing, and the ranch is therefore kept in the best condition.

On December 30, 1913, Mr. Ramacher was married in Temperance Colony to Miss Elizabeth Brooks, who was born in Peoria County, Ill., the daughter of James A. and Olive A. (Parr) Brooks, each of whom was a native of that state and numbered among the worthiest of Illinois farmers. In 1906 they came to Fresno County and purchased a vineyard in Temperance Colony where they now reside. The younger of their two children, Mrs. Ramacher received her education in the public schools of Peoria County, Ill., and in Temperance district, this county, and in time came to have a lovely daughter of her own, named Olive Esther.

Mr. and Mrs. Ramacher are interested in sociological movements and in work for humanity. Mr. Ramacher marches in the ranks of the Socialists, in the fulfillment of his political duties; and Mrs. Ramacher is an active member of the Kutner Auxiliary of the Fresno Chapter of the Red Cross.

JAMES MACKAY.—Among the rising Californians of foreign birth, who have brought to the development of this great commonwealth so much of the brains, brawn and experience of the Old World, one who has become a recognized authority as a viticulturist and horticulturist, especially in the growing of figs, is James Mackay, who was born at Strathpeffer County, Ross, Scotland, in 1872, the son of Simon Mackay, an honored farmer there who died at the ripe old age of eighty-three. His mother, who was Catherine McKinzie before her marriage, survived her husband for many years, and died in 1912.

James was the youngest of ten children, and was reared on the farm, at the same time that he received a public school education. He helped his folks and remained home until he was twenty years of age. Then he was made game warden on the Lord Middleton estate, but after six years he re-



Charles Lindross
Lena Lindross

signed and joined the Edinburgh police, where he served for five years, or from his twenty-fifth to his thirtieth year, when he resigned. He then engaged in dairying for a period of eight years, when he sold out, to leave his native land and cross the wide ocean.

Mr. Mackay came to California by way of New York and New Orleans, and was not long in choosing Fresno County as his home. Two brothers, Donald and Alexander, had preceded him to California, and this paved the way, in the spring of 1911, for his entry into the employ of the Glorieta ranch.

In 1913, Mr. Mackay left the ranch and accepted a more flattering offer from the W. A. Sutherland vineyard, where he became foreman, a post he filled with exceptional ability for the next two years, and which he gave up reluctantly to take the superintendency of the Glorieta and Alta Sierra ranches, each of 160 acres, and also Mrs. Drake's ranch, and some others. The ranches were in orchard and vineyard, and he then began that conscientious study of horticulture and viticulture for which he had really laid the foundation on his arrival in California, and in which he soon became distinguished. Having a nursery on the place, he had ample opportunity to study plant life and especially the growing of figs, and in that field he has conducted some valuable experiments with Calimyrnas. He is a friend of Prof. J. T. Condit, the fig professor at the University of California, with whom he is in close touch, and he is at present experimenting with a distinct special Capri fig, and is keeping the records for the University laboratory. As a result, Mr. Mackay has made some valuable discoveries.

While in classical and picturesque Edinburgh, the pride of the patriotic Scot, Mr. Mackay was married to Miss Elizabeth Monroe, a native of that romantic country, and by her he has had two children, James and Arthur. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World of Clovis, and was made a Mason in Clovis Lodge, F. & A. M. And finally, he is an American citizen, having been made a member of the American Republic on December 27, 1917.

CHARLES LINDROSE.—An industrious, ambitious, and aggressive rancher and horticulturist, who is far-seeing in all that he undertakes, is Charles Lindrose, who vies in popularity with his excellent and equally hospitable wife, a woman of refinement who has brought up a model and attractive family. Mr. Lindrose's brother, M. J. Lindrose, was one of the first settlers in Washington Colony in 1877, and this resulted in the long journey from his native Norway to California in 1889.

Charles Lindrose was born in Kongsberg, Norway, September 27, 1870, the son of Ole Lindrose, who was also born there and was in the employ of the Kongsberg silver mines all his life as a miner; when he was sixty-five, he was retired and pensioned, and resided at Kongsberg until he died, at the age of eighty-four. His wife had been Bertha Kathrina Foshagen before her marriage, and she is still living at Kongsberg, at the age of eighty-two. Ole Lindrose was married twice, by the first union there were five children, but none are now living, and one of these sons was M. J. Lindrose, already referred to; six children were born of the second marriage, and Charles was the third eldest. A brother, S. A. Lindrose, lives at Bowles in this county.

Charles was brought up in Norway, attended the public schools of his native country and then for four years was employed in a paper manufactory. In 1889 he came to Fresno and worked for his brother, M. J. Lindrose, at fruit-farming, and afterward for other ranchers. He then purchased a small ranch at Easton, which he improved as an orchard and sold at a profit, and next bought twenty acres at Dinuba, where he set out a fine vineyard. When he sold that, three years later, he bought forty acres near Reedley, in the Producers' Colony, which he improved to vines and sold at a good profit, and next he purchased ten acres, also located near Reedley, which he set to vineyard and later sold at a good advance.

After this Mr. Lindrose returned to the vicinity of Fresno. Here he leased forty acres in the McKinley district, and also purchased the place he at present owns, then fifteen acres. This was in April, 1908, and as the land was raw he began improvements, while farming the forty leased acres. In 1909 he bought ten acres adjoining and still later he added five acres more.

On June 24, 1909, in the McKinley district, Mr. Lindrose was married to Miss Lena Dahl, a native of Trondhjem, Norway, and the daughter of Ole Dahl, a farmer there. Lena Dahl received a good education in the public and high schools of her native land. Having a sister, Mrs. C. W. Anderson, living in Fresno County, she crossed the ocean and continent to join her. Thus kind fate brought her to Fresno, in 1905, and here she met Charles Lindrose, the acquaintance resulting in their marriage. Four children blessed their union: Frank, Evelyn, Earl, and Katherine. Mrs. Lindrose is a cultured woman and presides gracefully over her husband's household, where she welcomes their many friends.

Mr. Lindrose has highly improved his home ranch of thirty acres where he has set out an orchard of peaches and apricots, and a vineyard of fifteen acres of Thompson seedless and muscats, and ten acres of alfalfa. Upon his ranch three and a half miles west of Fresno on Belmont Avenue, he has made many substantial improvements, including the erection of a fine residence, and also suitable farm buildings. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and energetically supports its policies. Mr. Lindrose is independent in politics, and especially so in all matters pertaining to the locality in which he has an ever-increasing interest.

DONALD MACKAY.—A kind-hearted, hospitable fellow, who enjoys the esteem of a wide circle of friends, and the good wishes of all who note his deserved prosperity, is Donald Mackay, who came to California in the early nineties, an industrious and thrifty native of bonnie Scotland, bringing with him both experience and virtues so valuable in the development of a new country. He was born in County Ross, Scotland, on October 1, 1860, a son of Simon Mackay and a brother of James Mackay who is also a resident of Fresno County. His father was a farmer in that country, as well liked as he was well-known, who lived to attain thirteen years more than the biblical three-score and ten. His mother's maiden name was Catherine McKinzie, and she died years after her husband, in 1912.

In 1882, Donald crossed the ocean to Halifax, Canada, and soon began to follow farming and lumbering in Antigonish County, Nova Scotia. Eight years elapsed before he left that country, and then he came to Fresno, where he followed viticulture and horticulture. He entered the employ of the Fresno Flume and Lumber Company, and for seven years proved one of their most reliable men; after which he was with the Madera Sugar Pine Company and placed at their disposal his undivided time and best effort. For a time he was a millwright; and then he became the planing-mill foreman, a post he filled with exceptional ability.

Having been interested, however, for many years in viticulture, Mr. Mackay in 1902 purchased ten acres, which he set out as an orchard and vineyard. He has further improved the place with a fine residence and suitable buildings, and there his family make their home. The land is devoted to the raising of Thompson's seedless grapes and Elberta peaches, and with these he has been very successful. A few years ago he also bought twenty acres four miles west of his place; and this tract he kept until he had a chance to sell it at a good profit. He now owns twenty other acres of fine land, just west of his house, which are devoted to a vineyard of Feherzagos and the growing of alfalfa. In January, 1915, he resigned his position with the Madera Sugar Pine Company to give himself entirely to the sciences of viticulture and horticulture. He is a live member of the California Associated Raisin Company and also the California Peach Growers, Inc.

Amid the delightful surroundings at Temperance Colony, Fresno County, in 1895, Mr. Mackay was married to Miss Flora Damon, who was born near Waukesha, Wis., and came to Nebraska with her parents, who were farmers near Atkinson, Holt County, but when she was twelve years old, they brought her to Red Bluff, Cal. Later, the family came to Fresno County.

Mr. and Mrs. Mackay have three children: Chester, was with the Southern Pacific Railroad Company at Clovis until April, 1918, when he enlisted in the United States Naval Reserve Force and is serving on the Battleship Vermont, plying between Fortress Monroe, Va., and Brest, France; Norman is attending the University of Southern California; and Dorothy is at home. The family are Presbyterians, and Mr. Mackay belongs to the Woodmen of the World.

LYMAN H. CARPENTER.—A liberal-minded, frank and open-hearted gentleman, who is well-read and well-posted, not only on Central Californian affairs, but on life in general, is Lyman H. Carpenter, who was born in Piqua, Ohio, on August 11, 1858, the son of John C. Carpenter, who was born in Lancaster County, Pa., and settled in Piqua, where he was a farmer, until he removed to Missouri. At Springfield, in Greene County, he continued farming, and there he died. He had married Rebecca Darling, who was born in Chester County, Pa., and later she died in Missouri, the mother of twelve children, eight of whom grew up and are now living. Among these, Lyman is the second eldest.

He was reared on a farm in Piqua, Ohio, and attended the public schools. And there he was married to Miss Annie Ginn, who was born there. He engaged in farming on his father's farm, and in 1896 removed to Springfield, Greene County, Mo., where he bought a farm seven miles west of the town. He engaged in grain and stock-raising, and had a fine place. He was successful; but having suffered with the grippe, he was left with a throat trouble.

This led Mr. Carpenter to seek a more favorable climate, and whither should he more naturally turn than toward California? He came here in 1914, and located for a while at Fresno; and finding that his trouble left him, he bought ten acres of a peach orchard on Blackstone Avenue. At the end of two years, however, he sold out and purchased his present place of thirty acres on Brooks Avenue, between California and Jensen, about twelve miles west of Fresno. And there he has become a successful California agriculturist, raising alfalfa, hay and hogs, and running a dairy. He is an active member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and of the California Associated Raisin Company; and vigorously supports their various programs for the development of Fresno County.

Two children have come to be the especial pride of Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter, and each has also found a place of special usefulness in life. Gertrude is the wife of William Sticklen and resides east of Fresno; and Georgie is the wife of Jemmen Bos, and they reside on Blackstone Avenue.

Mr. Carpenter belongs to the Odd Fellows, Lodge No. 328 at Brookline, Mo., where he is a past grand. In national politics he is a Republican.

JOHN W. COOK.—An American who believes in living and letting others live, and an adopted Californian who has enjoyed better health here than anywhere else in the entire land, is John W. Cook, who is provided with a good ranch and a comfortable home. He was born near Jordan village, Owen County, Ind., on May 7, 1858, the son of George W. Cook, who was also born in Owen County, was a farmer and then removed to Clay City, Ind., where he farmed and died, living to see the nation he loved round out its first century of great progress. Susan Cook, the mother, was born in Indiana, and died there in 1900, the mother of eleven children, of whom our subject is the seventh eldest, and the only one now living.

Brought up in Clay City, John attended the public schools there, and when, during his seventeenth year, his father died, he continued at home

to assist his mother run the place. At her death, the property was sold, and the estate divided.

He there married Miss Alice Lankford, who was born in Clay County, Ind., and was a mate with him at school; and his mother continued her residence with him, until her death in February, 1900. On the fourteenth of the following May, his wife died; and he was also ill; so, as soon as practicable, he sold out and moved to Oklahoma.

He drove there in a wagon, and then sold the team and went to Eureka Springs, where he remained for six months; after which he returned to Indiana. He made three trips to North Dakota, and in 1905 went to Saskatchewan, Canada, where he homesteaded 160 acres. But on account of bad health, he let it revert to the government. Then he went back to North Dakota and farmed for a year.

In 1909 Mr. Cook took the important step which brought him to Fresno County and started him at last on the way to a satisfying prosperity. He bought this ranch of ten acres on Section 15, and later bought ten acres more, making twenty acres on Jensen Avenue, twelve miles west of Fresno. From what was once raw land Mr. Cook has raised the values by many improvements, planting trees, alfalfa and setting out vines.

Two children bear Mr. Cook's name: Lonzie, is in Fresno; and the other, Cecil, in Clay City, Ind. In national politics Mr. Cook is a Democrat; but he finds pleasure in supporting local projects regardless of party affiliations, and always aims to vote for the best men and the best measures.

FRANK J. BORELL.—A very successful farmer is Frank J. Borell who understands California ranching and he has had the good fortune to be assisted by a capable wife, and to be blessed with bright and progressive children. He was born January 22, 1894, at Waverly, Wright County, Minn., forty miles northwest of Minneapolis, the son of Louis Borell, who was born near Berlin, Germany, and who came to the United States when a youth and located, before the Civil War, in Minnesota; and he bought raw land and timber at Waverly. He improved his farm, and soon had 300 acres in good condition. He lives retired at Waverly, numbering among his honors those that came to him through the wise administration of office as supervisor. Mr. Borell married Kate Knaeble, a native of Pennsylvania whose grandfather, J. Knaeble, was a pioneer of Minneapolis. She is also living, the mother of nine children, seven of whom are still living.

Frank J. is the third oldest and the only one in California. Reared on a farm, he attended the public school and when nineteen began the experience of five years in farming for himself. Later he became the owner of eighty acres of land, part of the old family place, which he improved with a residence and other buildings.

On November 17, 1900, he was married at Waverly to Miss Pearl Pannett, a native of the place, born November 17, 1883, and the daughter of George R. W. Pannett, who came from Cumberland, Md., to Minnesota, when he was nineteen years of age. He settled near Waverly, bought land and became a well-to-do farmer. He had two brothers who did valiant service in the Civil War. He now resides on Van Ness Avenue, Fresno. He had married Alice Dike, a native of Rushford, Wis., who is still living, the mother of six children, all in Fresno, among whom Mrs. Borell is the third oldest. Mrs. Borell was educated at Waverly, and after marriage the couple continued to farm to grain and raise stock. In February, 1906, they rented their ranch and came to Fresno County and remained for a time to look around; and liking the appearance of the land, they sold their farm and settled here.

In December, 1906, they bought their present place of twenty acres, and since then they purchased the twenty acres adjoining, so that now they have forty acres together on California Avenue, four miles west of Fresno. These they have improved according to the latest word of science and practical experience; owing to the poor quality of the vines, they have taken them up,

L. P. Fincher.



and planted all to alfalfa, returning only the Thompson seedless grapes; and now they have twenty acres of muscat, sultanas, and peaches and alfalfa, and they also have a well-appointed dairy. Mr. Borell is a member and stockholder of the California Associated Raisin Company, and a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association.

Four children have blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Borell: Adrey E., Raleigh A., Eldon W., and Lily Pearl; the boys are in attendance at the high school. The family attend the First Christian Church, of which Mr. Borell is a deacon. In national politics Mr. Borell votes with the Republican party; but in movements for the betterment of the community, he casts party lines to the winds, and works shoulder to shoulder with his neighbors and fellow-citizens.

Mr. Borell's two oldest boys are interested in natural history, and are such close students that they are far advanced as naturalists. They have done much in taxidermy and already excel in that line of work. They have a choice collection of mounted birds and California animals, and give great promise of future accomplishment; while Eldon W. is showing a talent as a pianist.

JAMES PATRICK FINCHER.—How superior intelligence, together with years of unremitting work, may develop property to its highest value, while the developer attains an enviable place in the community, is shown in the career of James Patrick Fincher, the son of Levi Nelson Fincher, a native of North Carolina, where he was born in October, 1830. He moved to Missouri and from there, in 1850, came to California by way of the Isthmus, and for a year followed mining, meeting with fair success. The next year he returned to Missouri and married Paulina Nelson Moore, who was born in Tennessee on February 18, 1830, and soon after removed to Kansas, where he farmed for himself. In 1862 he again started for California, this time taking the route across the plains, and having his family with him, and that year the party drove their ox teams into Sacramento County. There Levi Fincher engaged in the general merchandise business, but believing that he could do better in grain-farming, he went on to Stanislaus County and engaged in farming near what is now Riverbank. As soon as he became posted in regard to Fresno County he came here, and in 1884 he had 800 acres in grain. That land became his home-place, and there he followed grain-farming until his death, in April, 1909; his wife passed away on November 6, 1907.

Born near Riverbank, in Stanislaus County, July 11, 1864, the sixth child in a family of eleven, James Patrick attended the McHenry district school in Stanislaus County. After a short time spent in Fresno County, he continued his studies with a course at Heald's Business College in San Francisco, from which he graduated in 1885. He then returned home and took charge of his father's ranch in Fresno County, which was afterwards known as the Fincher Colony, Levi Fincher having subdivided it in 1891 and endeavored to sell the smaller tracts. But the times were bad, the land came back, and the Fincher Colony remained in the family, awaiting a more favorable period for development.

On December 13, 1888, James P. Fincher was united in marriage with Nancy Ann Musick, born at Academy, Cal. She is the daughter of the late Jasper N. Musick, one of the early pioneers and builders of Fresno County who is represented on another page in this history. She was the most valuable kind of a helpmate, and it was not long before he took up farming for himself. He leased a ranch of 1,000 acres two miles northwest of Sanger, and went in for grain-farming on a large scale. He also rented the Dalton tract in Madera County, consisting of 2,000 acres.

In 1901, Mr. Fincher gave up grain-farming to engage in the dairy business. He selected the West Park Ranch for his operations, and soon made the forty-acre corner of Jensen and Marks Avenues a well improved dairy ranch. He stocked the ranch with the best grade of cattle and installed the

most improved appliances; and for nine years he contributed his share to making Central California's dairy output strictly first-class.

The elder Fincher having passed away in 1909, James Patrick gave up dairying in order to improve his seventy-five-acre ranch received from his father's estate. He set it out to vineyard and it is now principally in muscat grapes. At present he and his wife are living in their comfortable residence on their ranch in the Fincher Colony. They have four children: Orville Day, an electrician in Fresno; Floyd Otis, an engineer in the Union Iron Works, Oakland; Isabelle Jane, and Raymond Nelson, the two latter are under the parental roof. Mrs. Fincher is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, in Clovis. Mr. Fincher is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

MRS. HELEN LANGWORTHY GRANGER.—A very busy woman who comes of a fine old and prominent San Joaquin Valley family, is Mrs. Helen Langworthy Granger, whose father founded Langworth in Stanislaus County and built it up. She was born at that place, the daughter of Henry Langworthy, a native of Addison County, Vermont, born December 22, 1826, and a member of a very old family there. From his fourth or fifth year he was reared in Illinois, and later he taught school in that state. Whatever he did enabled him to demonstrate his superior ability as a young and very promising man.

In 1849 he started for California by way of Cape Horn, and arrived in San Francisco in January, 1850, soon after which he located near Farmington in San Joaquin County. There he married Miss Eliza Jane Hewitt, a native of Steubenville, Ohio, born January 1, 1854, and the daughter of Samuel Hewitt, who came from County Antrim, Ireland, to Ohio as a pioneer. The Hewitts crossed the plains in 1852 with ox teams, and arriving in San Joaquin County, camped where Mr. Langworthy had located. The old folks liked both the country and the young man, bought a ranch and resided in that neighborhood until they died. The farm is still in the family; and there Mr. Langworthy met his future wife, and they were married.

Having sold out in San Joaquin County, Mr. Langworthy bought a farm in Stanislaus County, at the site of the town named for him. He became a large land-owner and stockman, was postmaster of Langworth and did much to lay out and build up Langworth, erecting stores and other buildings there so much needed for such a pioneer venture. He was a man of large affairs, and owned a ranch of 1,000 acres. He was a notary public, and was interested in building up the schools and improving the educational advantages in the county, and also active in both Sunday school and church.

The Langworthy ferry was located on his place. While delivering stock, he was accidentally knocked down by the bolting of an animal which caused him to fall and to suffer from concussion of the brain. Mrs. Langworthy died in 1866, leaving three children. Five months before the accident, Mr. Langworthy married a second time, taking for his wife Margaret Gregg, of Steubenville, Ohio, who survived him until December 4, 1896, passing away at the home of Mrs. Granger. The three children by the first marriage were: Mary, the wife of Alonzo Mercer, of Chicago, who died in that city and was buried in Oakdale; Helen, the subject of this review, and Ralph W., who was married to Lily McAboy, of Illinois. He was for a while in the livery business in Modesto, and then became a landowner in Southern California. He also improved a vineyard of forty acres on Belmont Avenue, and there he resided for twenty-one years.

Mrs. Granger had three uncles and two aunts, pioneers of San Joaquin County: James Rogers, Martin L. and William T. Hewitt, who became large landowners with their father, and the land is still in possession of their families. Her two aunts also married pioneers. Sarah Hewitt became the wife of C. H. Huffman, who helped build the Huffman-Crocker Canal at Merced, and she has three children; and Matilda Hewitt was the wife of Robert Mc-

Henry, of Modesto, who was a pioneer builder of Modesto and Stanislaus County, and a prominent stockman, large land owner and banker. They had one son, the late Oromel McHenry.

Brought up on a farm and educated at the public school, and afterward studying at the San Jose State Normal, Mrs. Granger went to Steubenville, Ohio, to visit relatives and on her return to California she was married at her home to William W. Granger, who was born in Columbus, Mich., and was educated in that state. He taught school for a while and then was engaged in the drug business in Ypsilanti. Later, he came to Modesto and taught school there; and then he was again in the drug trade. In 1892 he bought their present place of twenty acres, and with the aid of his wife, he set it out as a vineyard. And Mrs. Granger has cared for it ever since. She also bought forty acres on McKinley Avenue and improved the property, but then gave it to her son. Mrs. Granger is well-posted, and an exceptionally interesting conversationalist. She is a member of the First Presbyterian Church, the Parlor Lecture Club, and the Madison Club. Her one son, Guy L. Granger, is manager of the California Peach Association at Del Rey.

WILLIAM EDWIN GREENWOOD.—Many an early settler of western Fresno County will still recall with pleasure the pioneer stockman, William Edwin Greenwood, who was born at Jennie Lind, Cal., in 1858, the son of James Greenwood, who came from Birmingham, England, bringing his wife, crossed the plains with ox teams and located in California. He set up in the butcher business and thrived so well that he was able to make a comfortable provision for his family.

Nevertheless, William Edwin was so reared that he was a selfmade man, developed in part by study. This feeling of independence led him, when seventeen, to run away from home and to come to Fresno County, where he worked for a sheepman and saved money until he could start with a small flock. He located in San Benito County, and bought land there; and gradually he increased his four-footed property.

Coming to Fresno County he continued to buy land in the Panoche country until he held title to about 3,400 acres. Thirteen years before his death, he retired from the sheep and cattle business, and moved to a ranch of forty acres on Belmont and Coalinga. He died at the hospital in San Francisco, in August, 1917, mourned by a large circle of steadfast friends who had come to appreciate the excellent qualities of his sterling character.

Mr. Greenwood married Georgia Parker of San Joaquin County, and left an only child, now Mrs. Daisy Elder.

A man of commanding appearance, Mr. Greenwood was a hard worker, and by his foresight and industry was able to contribute much to the building up of the county's best interests. Through thrift and economy, he acquired vast areas of land, and through highly intelligent enterprise, he made a wise disposition of the same. When, for example, he located in San Benito County, he made it a point to locate lands on such water courses that he had living waters; and he was so discerning that he anticipated the finding there of oil and minerals, for which a company is now seeking in his neighborhood with good results. In this commonsense way he operated, not only building for himself, but at the same time pointing the way for others.

DAVID CUTTING.—Among the dairymen of the vicinity of Tranquillity, Fresno County, particular mention is made of David Cutting, a pioneer citizen of the Pacific Coast Country having first seen the light of day November 19, 1849, at Oregon City, Ore. His father, who bore the same name, was a native of South Bend, Ind., while his grandfather, Charles Cutting, was born in Vermont and saw service during the War of 1812. David Cutting Sr. was married in Indiana to Mary Mattoon, a native of the Hoosier State. In 1847 Mr. and Mrs. David Cutting Sr., with their family, consisting at that time of but two children, crossed the plains with the slow going ox teams to Oregon where they engaged in farming. They were the parents

of six children: Jones, Abel, David, Charles, Oren, and Eliza; three of whom, Jones, Charles and Eliza are deceased. Abel lives with his brother David, while Oren resides in Clackamas County, Ore.

David Cutting was reared and educated in Oregon and on August 16, 1877, was united in marriage with Miss Mary F. Zamette, a native of Portland, Ore., daughter of Achilles and Rachel (Mognette) Zamette. Her father, a native of Palermo, Sicily, became a sailor and on one of his voyages came to California, via Cape Horn, later going on to Portland, Ore., where he became a merchant. Her mother, a native of Ohio, became one of the early settlers of Oregon and passed away in Portland.

In 1883 David Cutting located in eastern Oregon, which at that time was a wilderness, preempted 160 acres, bought school land and homesteaded 160 and engaged in raising cattle, horses and sheep, using as his brand a big W., and having at one time 800 acres of land. In 1909 David Cutting made his first trip to California and after investigating the country round about Tranquillity, Fresno County, he decided this would be the location of his future home. In April, 1910, Mr. Cutting purchased his ranch consisting of 171 acres of raw land at Tranquillity, subsequently selling his farm in Oregon, he located in October of the same year, upon his new place in California. He at once began to improve the land by leveling, checking and planting 100 acres to alfalfa and grain, and engaged in the dairy business.

Mr. and Mrs. Cutting have six children living: Flora, is the wife of Mr. J. H. Stricklin, residing at Tranquillity; Harry, lives at Izee, Ore.; Paul, was a sergeant and a member of the medical corps in United States Army, served five months in France; Clarence, is assisting his father with the work of the ranch; Anna, is still at home with her parents; Rodney, also is assisting his father on the ranch. Two children have passed away: George was killed by the Indians when nineteen years old, and Jones died at seven years of age. In political matters Mr. Cutting supports the Republican platform.

LOUIS E. GOBBY.—A stockman, large landowner and conservative financier, who began his struggle with the world when very young and has succeeded despite misfortunes that would have defeated one of less mental, moral and physical caliber, is Louis E. Gobby, the vice-president of the First National Bank of Riverdale.

A native of Switzerland, Mr. Gobby was born in the Canton Ticino on November 5, 1865, a son of Jasper Gobby, a mason, contractor and builder at Campo Niva, Switzerland, where he died when Louis was only three years of age; and his mother had been Mary Garzoli before her marriage. The children in the family included: Peter, who passed away in 1917; Louis, the subject of our review; Rocco, referred to elsewhere; Adeline and Josephine, both of whom died young. The good mother remained in Switzerland and lived to be sixty-five years of age. Louis E. grew up in that country to be twelve years of age. About that time his cousin, William Garzoli, who was a dairyman at Petaluma, revisited Switzerland and talked to the lad about California; with the result that, after he had returned to the Pacific Coast, he wrote to the boy's mother, then a widow, and sent her money for her son's passage, and although only in his early teens, he came all the way from his home in the mountain republic to California, arriving in Petaluma on August 17, 1878. He commenced work at once on his cousin's dairy ranch. He toiled from three o'clock in the morning until ten o'clock at night, all the while becoming more and more infatuated with California, saved his money and wrote home to encourage his younger brother, Rocco S., to turn his face toward the great land of liberty. He sent him money for his passage and two years later, he sent for the older brother, Peter, who became a well-known dairyman of Riverdale, and is now deceased.

The three Gobby brothers continued dairying in Sonoma County, but in 1885 came down to Riverdale, with John Cerini, who was then renting land and running a dairy. Louis Gobby worked for Cerini during 1885-86,



P. N. Christensen.

and then, for five years was in partnership with his brothers. They then started to expand in the dairy business, went back to Petaluma, bought eighty-five head of young stock and shipped them from Petaluma to San Francisco by boat, and thence by rail to Fresno; from which point they drove them to Riverdale. Texas fever broke out and within ten days all except nineteen head had died. This unexpected misfortune "broke" the trio for the time being.

Louis then returned to working for wages, and soon was able to make a second start. Again he rented, this time the John's ranch where, during 1893-4, he milked 150 cows. Financial depression, panics and small prices interfered and made the profits very small; but he then bought eighty acres of the Ballard place, taking his brother Rocco into partnership with him; and this partnership continued for two years. Since 1895, each brother has operated for himself.

Now Mr. Gobby owns 820 acres in his own right, with two sets of buildings. He rents out 100 acres, and he raises stock—mostly beef cattle.

Not only is Mr. Gobby the vice-president of the First National Bank of Riverdale, but he was one of its very first stockholders.

A public-spirited citizen, Mr. Gobby has followed the great leaders of the Republican party in national affairs; but when it comes to local issues, he is for the best interests of Fresno County and Riverdale.

P. N. CHRISTENSEN.—A California settler, delighted with the land of his adoption, is P. N. Christensen, who traded his well-improved farm of 100 acres in Iowa for just one-fifth of that area in the more sought-for Madison district, Fresno County, paying in addition \$1,000 to consummate the deal. He settled here in 1894; and ever since those dealing or acquainted with him have never ceased to speak well of P. N. Christensen.

He was born at Langeland, Denmark, on March 26, 1850, one of a family of four children, all of whom grew to maturity. As the eldest he was brought up in his native land, and there attended school until he was fourteen, when he went to work on a farm. At twenty he entered the Danish army, serving in the Third Company of the Fourth Battalion, and received an honorable discharge at the end of sixteen months. That was the period of the Franco-Prussian War, and he was always under orders to be ready for active service; but was not called into action.

Having remained a year longer in Denmark after leaving the army Mr. Christensen, in 1872, came to the United States, and for three years was at Manistee, Mich., loading vessels and working in a saw-mill. Then he moved to Council Bluffs, Iowa, and soon after went to Hazel Dell Township, Pottawattamie County, thirteen and a half miles northeast of Council Bluffs. Two years later he bought forty acres, at ten dollars an acre, on time. He made numerous improvements and engaged in stock-raising. He kept investing his earnings in land until he had 100 well-improved acres and plenty of good stock. By 1892, however, he had become so interested in the possibilities offered on the Pacific Coast that he made a trip here to see for himself; and having toured the state, he concluded that Fresno County offered more, with better guarantees, than any other section. Two years later, therefore, he sold his Middle West property, actually trading for a ranch he had not yet seen; and although hard times greeted him for a while, he found that his ranch was good and altogether "worth while." He went in for viticulture and also had an orchard of plums, apples, peaches and apricots, all of which he sold in the Fresno market. He constantly improved what he had, built a residence and out-buildings, sunk a well and installed a good engine; and having full water-rights, created a first-class system of irrigation. For twenty-four years he has been on his present place.

Mr. Christensen also bought eighty acres on White's Bridge Road, which was wheat stubble; leveled the same, and improved it for alfalfa. He kept it for three years, and then sold it at a profit. He also bought forty acres north

of Kearney Switch, planted alfalfa and raised hay, which he sold in Fresno, making a success of that venture. He kept this property for many years, and gave it to his children. He also bought forty acres of raw land near Clovis, set it out to vineyard and after ten years he sold to good advantage. A rancher of wide experience, he belongs to and ably supports the California Associated Raisin Company.

Mr. Christensen has been twice married. In Michigan he was joined to Kate Larsen, a native of Denmark who died in California in 1914, the mother of seven children. Laura is Mrs. Hans Hansen, of West Park; Emma is Mrs. Niels Hansen, of the Madison district; William is a farmer at Rolinda; Hulda is Mrs. Claussen of West Park; Oluf is a rancher at Kearney Switch; Ella is Mrs. Arthur Dixon, of Fresno; and Ferdinand is a farmer in the Houghton district. On his second marriage, at Fresno, Mr. Christensen chose for his wife Miss Laura Nielsen, who was born in Wisconsin. The couple attend the Seventh Day Adventist Church at Fresno, of which Mr. Christensen has been a trustee; and in matters political they march under the banner of the Republican Party.

GEORGE P. GUERNSEY.—An experienced farmer who is doing much to improve land, and who likes to see things grow, and a successful stockman, who is a splendid horseman and a fine judge of horses, is George P. Guernsey, who worked his way up from youth, took good care of his mother and today enjoys the fruits of the by-gone years. He was born at Osceola, St. Clair County, Mo., on December 23, 1868, the son of John W. Guernsey, who was a New Yorker reared in Ohio. He removed to Missouri and served in the Union Army during the Civil War; was a carpenter and builder and then a farmer and stockman; and he died, in every sense a worthy representative of his English ancestors, in 1871. Mrs. Guernsey had been Mildred Preston, a native of Tennessee of French-English stock; and she died in 1912, the mother of four children, of whom George, the second eldest, is the only one living.

He was reared in Missouri where the mother was a teacher; and in after years she lived with her son until her death. He attended the public schools, and from a boy learned farming. When he was nineteen years old, he rented a farm in Cass County, Mo., and engaged in the raising of grain and stock. Then he moved to Vernon County, where he was married to Miss Dee Fisher, a native of Pettis County, Mo., and bought a farm in Vernon County. He raised grain and stock until 1913, when he sold out, came to California and located in Fresno County.

He bought a farm and for five months was dairying on McKinley Avenue, when he sold out and settled in the Dunkard district, and renewed his work at dairying. He soon purchased forty acres of his present place on California Avenue, eleven miles west of Fresno, at that time a neglected place of weeds, so that he had to cut his way through; but he made all necessary improvements, built a ditch, leveled and checked the land, built a residence, and sowed alfalfa; and then went in for dairying and the raising of stock, cattle, horses, mules and hogs. He also had land for pasture. And he became a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association, in which he is recognized as a very progressive member.

Five children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Guernsey. Verne and Kimball are associated with their father in the stock business; and Wanah and George are at home, and a baby, Jack Couey. The family attends the Seventh Day Adventist Church at Rolinda, and he is one of the trustees of the Adventist school at that place. Besides his own children, Mr. and Mrs. Guernsey have reared the son of a sister, Leon Bland, (whose mother is Mrs. Laura Bland) and he has become a prosperous rancher in the Empire Colony. In national politics Mr. Guernsey is a Democrat.

ALBERT BURTON HILL.—Albert Burton Hill, now deceased, was the youngest son of John and Maria (Daubner) Hill, and was born in Brookfield, Waukesha County, Wis., on October 14, 1869. He was educated in the public schools and came to California with his father in 1880, and was associated with him until 1896, when he purchased 160 acres of land four miles southwest of Coalinga. Later he bought another 160 acres. He engaged in grain farming, but had three acres in orchard and two acres in vineyard, shade trees and flowers. The place was highly improved, with irrigating ditch, good buildings and ground under splendid cultivation. In 1899 he started hauling materials to the oil fields. He also conducted a hay and grain store on E Street, Coalinga, in a building he bought and moved onto a lot that he owned on that street. In 1905 he was appointed postmaster of Coalinga by President Roosevelt. He died while in office April 6, 1907. A. B. Hill was very active in politics, a Republican, and was associated with the leaders in Fresno County. He was a member of the Republican Central Committee of Fresno County, and a member of Odd Fellows, Modern Woodmen and Red Men.

A. B. Hill married Grace Isabelle Slater, born in Milwaukee, Wis., who came to California in 1880, when a little girl and attended school in Merced and Kings Counties. Of this union were born two children: Lloyd H., a graduate of Coalinga high school, married to Ina Cawelti of Los Angeles, who holds a responsible position with the Union Tool Company at Torrance. He was prominent in athletics. And Mabel A., in the Intermediate school in Coalinga. A. B. Hill was a good business man, and he saw the possibilities of the future of Coalinga. When the Sunset Addition was put on the market in Coalinga, he bought the first lot and owned fourteen of them. In the early days he farmed these same lots. This property is now all built up and forms a part of the residence section of Coalinga. Lots then selling for sixty and corner lots for seventy dollars are now worth from \$200.00 to \$250.00 each.

Since the death of Mr. Hill, the care of this property has fallen to his wife, who has shown exceptional ability in looking after it. She has erected four houses and sold some of the lots, planted shade trees in the streets and otherwise improved the property. She is a fine business woman, and has displayed a great deal of executive force. The ranch property has all been sold and a part invested in town property and other securities. She is a member of the Royal Neighbors.

PROF. CHARLES L. GEER.—Prominent among the men and women in the California pedagogical world is Prof. Charles L. Geer, principal of the Coalinga high school, and supervising principal of the Coalinga grammar schools, who has been an educator all his life and comes very naturally by the profession, as his father and mother both taught school before him. His early education was obtained in the public schools of Dakota, and Iowa, and so apt was he in his work, that he had finished the grammar school at the age of ten years. He came to California in 1897, and graduated from the Campbell high school at Santa Clara, after which he entered Stanford University and was graduated from that institution in 1907. He then received the degree of Bachelor of Arts; but his natural ambition would not permit him to be satisfied with that, so he returned for a year of graduate work. What is more, he worked his way through college, and he became an assistant in the English department. He went in for the stiff course in "Argumentation" there, and while at Stanford won the first Bonnheim prize given for debating. What gifts he had as a deep thinker and a fluent talker, he further improved by hard study and severe discipline.

After finishing his work at Stanford, Professor Geer became a teacher in the Paso Robles high school, and held that post for three years. In 1911, however, he was called to the Coalinga high school. At first he accepted a position as instructor only; but in 1915 he was made principal of the high

school, and in 1918 he was made supervising principal of the Coalinga grammar schools.

Since coming to Coalinga, Professor Geer has done much to advance the interests of higher education in this vicinity. He is a strong advocate of physical education—the building up of the body, with the training of the mind; and this is now compulsory in the Coalinga system, with the result that his pupils have made the best record in the Valley in physical standards. Not only that, but some of his students have graduated from the Coalinga high school in the past three years to attain the highest scholarship and many of the first prizes at the university and in the colleges of the state.

Among other things successfully advocated by Professor Geer has been that of the intermediate school system of Coalinga. The first intermediate in the Valley. Over one hundred students from all over the valley are brought to the school in auto buses, and this gives the outsiders a far better chance for advanced education.

Some years ago Professor Geer married Miss Mary Benzing, a daughter of Alameda, Cal.; and two children have blessed their union—Ruth and Charles L., Jr. The Geer hearth is a happy one, and the Geer household the center of a warming hospitality. Professor and Mrs. Geer are leaders in the social and intellectual circles of the town, and he is a member of the Coalinga Chamber of Commerce as well as the Growler's Club.

Z. L. PHELPS.—To go against the advice and judgment of men skilled in geology and win out is not given to many men, but Mr. Phelps is one who did it. He is the pioneer oil-man of the West Side in the Coalinga field and drilled the first successful oil-well there, contrary to the geologists who claimed there was no oil to be had south of the old Coalinga coal mine. Since that time he has struck it rich many times, and large companies have developed lands and there are now hundreds of producing wells over this area.

Zerah Lambert Phelps, known among his friends as Zed Phelps, was born at Marion Station, Marion County, Ore., February 24, 1878. His father, O. B. Phelps, was born in Michigan, and came to Oregon with his father Capt. Benj. Phelps, a pioneer of Oregon. They crossed the plains with an ox team, following the old Oregon trail. Benj. Phelps was a captain in the Yakima Indian War, and was a pioneer of Salem. He died there at the age of ninety-five years. The father came to California from Oregon and engaged in mining at Mt. Diablo, Contra Costa County, in the Diamond coal mine. He was married there to Miss Esther Robertson, a native Californian, born near Sacramento. She is the daughter of George Robertson, who crossed the plains to California in 1849. He was killed at Kingston by desperadoes in the early days, and buried there.

After his marriage the father returned to Oregon and engaged in farming near Salem. In 1885 he came back to California, stopping at Visalia, Tulare County, and then located at Traver. This was in 1886 when the town was just started. He ran the warehouse there and took up a homestead of 160 acres east of Traver, improved it and resided there for a time, when he moved to Plano, Tulare County, where his wife died. He was engaged in the grain-raising business until he removed to Bakersfield, where he started in the oil business, operating in the Kern River fields. He, with T. C. Read, M. O'Dell, Frank Pitney and others, located the first oil lands in the Kern River field, sixteen sections being their possessions, but they sold most of the land at one dollar per acre. The father retired after this sale and removed to San Francisco for three years, after which he spent several years in Alaska and when he returned to California he resided with Mr. and Mrs. Z. L. Phelps, in Coalinga; he died in Fresno County, January 2, 1918, aged seventy-two years. There were six children, three of whom are living. Zed Phelps was the third oldest of the family. He was brought up in Oregon until 1885, when he came to California with his parents and attended public school at Traver. At the age of sixteen he began in the livery business for



J. L. Phelps

himself at Sanger. This was in 1894, and he remained there until 1898, when oil was discovered in the Kern River field. He sold his business at Sanger and removed to the Kern River field and engaged in oil business. He worked for George W. Smith as a driller, then was in the employ of different companies drilling for oil. He remained in this field until 1901, when he went to Los Angeles and stayed there for two years, contracting and drilling wells in the old Los Angeles fields. He returned to Bakersfield for one year and then located in Coalinga and organized the Lucile Oil Company in 1904, bought forty acres and sunk a well. Mr. Phelps was superintendent of the company, and this well proved a good one. He has been in the producing business ever since, continuing actively in the company until two years ago, when he left to look after other interests. He is still one of the large stockholders in the Lucile.

In 1909, Mr. Phelps organized the Silver Tip Oil Company, bought land and drilled a well which proved to be a gusher—20,000 barrels a day, and it is still flowing, the oldest flowing well in the state. It has flowed uninterruptedly, without having to be cleaned out. Mr. Phelps was superintendent and vice-president of this company, and in 1910 he sold his interest in it. He has organized the Marion Oil Company and was a stockholder in the Blue Moon Company, of both of which he was superintendent, and at one time he was superintendent of all the different oil companies he was interested in, and they were all producers. He finally sold out his interests in oil companies except the Lucile. He owns oil lands in different parts of the Coalinga field.

During all this time his headquarters have been in Coalinga, where he has his residence. He has also erected the Phelps Building, a three-story brick, the most pretentious building in the city of Coalinga. He owns a 160-acre ranch one and a half miles from Coalinga, where he has developed two water wells and installed a pumping-plant. He has set out a large orchard of peaches and apricots, and with his own irrigation plant has made a commercial success of his fruit, and his is the pioneer and first commercial orchard in the Coalinga district. He owns other valuable property in Coalinga.

Mr. Phelps was married in Los Angeles, on May 10, 1901, to Miss Pearl Overton, a native Californian, whose birthplace is in Sacramento County, but who was reared in Santa Barbara County. They have one son, Edward, a graduate of the Class of 1919, Coalinga Union High School.

Mr. Phelps is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Eagles, and is a Past Sachem of the Red Men, and is also a member of the Growlers Club. He was at one time a member of the board of trustees of Coalinga, and its chairman, and as a member of Coalinga District War Fund Association, he took an active part in putting the district over the top in the different war fund and bond drives, and with his wife is a member of the Red Cross. He is abreast of the times, and always interested in the progress of his home city and community.

THOMAS H. KOENEKE.—Among the first settlers in the section with which he has become identified is Thomas H. Koeneke, who came to Fresno County as late as 1903. When he and his father located on the ranch which they have so greatly improved, there were only three houses between them and what is now the State Highway.

Mr. Koeneke was born at Ward, in Moody County, S. D., on October 14, 1889, the son of Thomas Koeneke, who came from Kansas, homesteaded there, and became a farmer. In 1895 he removed from South Dakota to Marion County, Ore., where he was a farmer and a stockman; and in November, 1903, convinced of the greater attractions of Central California, he came to Fresno.

On the fourteenth of the following February, he bought a ranch of eighty acres in the Biola district, which he improved; and in 1917 he sold forty acres to his son, Thomas. The next year he sold the other forty acres

and retired; and now he resides in the Vinland district. He married Anna Shoemaker, and among the four children of the union—a son and three daughters—Thomas is the oldest.

He attended the public schools of Oregon and California, assisted his father, and engaged with him in farming; and in 1917 he made the purchase of forty acres of the home-place already referred to. There he continued viticulture, cultivating for the most part Thompson seedless, and managing a small orchard. He built a handsome residence and other necessary outbuildings; and operating according to the latest and most approved methods, he has made of the ranch one of the finest places for miles around. He joined the California Associated Raisin Company and is now one of its most progressive members.

At Vinland he married Miss Emelie Henschel, a native of Canada, by whom he has had one child, a daughter named Edna. The family attend the Lutheran Church at Fresno; and Mr. Koenke performs his civic duties under the banners of the Republican party.

TIMOTHY HURLEY.—An honored pioneer of the Tranquillity section of Fresno County, Timothy Hurley has been a resident of this great commonwealth for over thirty-five years, and has witnessed the marvelous development of this district from a wilderness to a well-improved community.

Tim Hurley, as he is familiarly called, was born in County Cork, Ireland, August 15, 1865, a son of Cornelius and Julia (Mullins) Hurley. The father was a farmer in the Emerald Isle, and he and his good wife have both passed away. There were nine children in the family, four of whom are living, three being residents of the Golden State. Jeremiah, and Cornelius, are citizens of Fresno; and Timothy, the subject of this review, is the youngest living member of the family.

He was reared on a farm and when eighteen years old came to Fresno, in 1883, when it was but a small town. He was employed by Mr. Jamison and helped to build the Church Ditch, in Fresno Street. Afterwards he worked on a ranch for Mr. Jamison, at Fowler, where he remained for eight years. When about twenty-six years of age Tim Hurley came to what was known as the Jamison country, where he began to lease land from Jeff James, and with W. J. Anthony and Thomas Mullins, as partners, engaged in raising grain. They operated about 1,500 acres of land where they raised wheat and barley and used in operating this large ranch four-, eight- and ten-horse teams, and had a combined harvester. They continued this business for many years. During the dry years prices for grain were very low. Mr. Hurley recalls how he hauled barley to Fresno, which took three days to make the trip, and received only ten dollars per ton.

In 1908, the partnership was dissolved, after which he bought forty acres of land, leveled, checked and improved it to planting alfalfa; also leasing land where he raised barley. Mr. Hurley is a very interesting pioneer and has the happy faculty of making and retaining many friends and is highly esteemed in his community for his uprightness of character.

PAUL KINDLER.—In the growth and advancement of a city one of the most important factors is necessarily the drawing within its borders men expert in the building trades, conscientious in their work and with the best interests of the community as their watchword. To such men Fresno has offered almost unlimited opportunity and to those who have been of the necessary caliber it has proven a most hospitable and appreciative haven. Among these last may be mentioned Paul Kindler, who as a brick contractor, specializing in high class work, has aided materially in the march of progress for which Fresno is fast becoming noted. Born near Berlin, Germany, October 28, 1876, Mr. Kindler was raised and educated there and there he learned the trade of brick mason, later becoming foreman on the brick work of many of the fine buildings in Berlin, always engaged in high class work, and soon became an expert in his line of business.

Mr. Kindler arrived in the United States in 1906, and first located in Toledo, Ohio, where he remained one year, working for the Spealser Construction Company, which company erected some of the best buildings in Toledo. With the West as his object, he continued his journey, and arrived in Fresno in the fall of 1907, and has since that year followed brick and terra cotta contracting in the San Joaquin Valley. Most of his work has been done in Fresno County and we give a partial list of the buildings he has done the brick contract work on: Brick and terra cotta work on the Bank of Italy; the Liberty Theater; the Christian Science Church; the Burnett Sanitarium; the above are of recent construction and are four of the best buildings erected in Fresno; the Overland Garage; Saxon Garage; Peacock Garage; Black Garage; Wiley M. Giffen residence; in other cities, the following: the Delano High School; Kingsburg High School; Christian Church at Parlier; two sanitariums, a school building and the Peach Growers' packing house in Hanford, Kings County; the Riverdale High School; and store buildings in Tulare.

While aiding in the rapid growth of the city, Mr. Kindler has prospered, and is the owner of four lots in Fresno, on which he intends to erect dwellings in the near future. A member of the Catholic Church, with his wife, whom he married March 29, 1915, who was formerly Meta Rehberg, a native of Germany, he makes his home at 145 North Van Ness Avenue.

HENRY M. HANCOCK.—A Californian by adoption who has become a leading spirit in the community in which he lives and prospers, accomplishing much good for the public at large and both earning and receiving the gratitude of his fellow-citizens, is Henry M. Hancock, the president of the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery. Of more than ordinary interest to the student of American history is the fact that he is a direct descendant of John Hancock, the illustrious patriot who, on July 4, 1776, was the first member of the Continental Congress to sign the Declaration of Independence. Henry M. was born at Vincennes, Iowa, on New Year's Day, 1852, and grew up in that state until his twenty-fifth year. Then he was married, in eastern Iowa to Miss Rebecca Fickel, who was born near Charleston, Iowa; and after their marriage, they moved to Western Iowa. There they rented a farm in Mills County, and for two years devoted themselves to agriculture.

They next moved to Kansas and bought 240 acres of school land, and that they farmed for twenty-five years. They had seven children: Ayres G., who died in December, 1917, aged forty years, lived at Mesa, Ariz.; he left two children, Grace, and Cecil, both being brought up at Mr. Henry Hancock's, where their mother also resides. Mary is the wife of John Ginn, the dairyman who lives four miles west of Riverdale, and who has two children. (Ayres and Mary were both born in Iowa, while the rest of the children were born in Kansas.) John Roy died at Riverdale, unmarried, at the age of thirty-five. Charles, also single, is the main stand-by of his father. William died, unmarried, when he was twenty-five years old. Grace became the wife of William Henton, the real estate dealer and constable of Riverdale and she died in 1917, leaving three children—Tina, Ralph and Hazel. And Fred, the seventh in the order of birth, is a farmer who married Miss Nina Henson of Riverdale, now the mother of one child, Velma.

The late J. Q. Hancock, of the Laguna de Tache grant, brother of Henry M., was prospering at his new location and wrote for Henry to come out to visit him in 1903; and late that fall he made his first visit to this place. He liked the country so well that he decided to locate here. Accordingly, at Christmas, in 1904, he moved here with his family and two car-loads of stock, implements and household goods. He bought of J. Q. Hancock 240 acres which he still owns. He has greatly improved the property and made it his California home. He also owns 570 acres near Tranquillity, Fresno County.

Mr. Hancock's father was Daniel Ayres Gillett Hancock, a native of Indiana, while his father, Daniel, was born in Maryland. Mr. Hancock is one

of Riverdale's most progressive citizens. He gave the right of way through his ranch to the Hanford & Summit Lake Railway in 1911, and then actively engaged in getting that company to build its road through Riverdale, and to put in a switch to the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery which he had been instrumental in establishing here. As has been in part stated, he was one of the Creamery's chief promoters and stockholders, and is still its president. The plant represents a cash outlay of \$50,000, and \$25,000 in improvements, in the shape of buildings and machinery, are being added.

Notwithstanding the repeated affliction through the death of their children, Mr. and Mrs. Hancock have preserved a brave and cheerful spirit, and no couple could be more highly esteemed by their neighbors, or receive a larger measure of good will and best wishes. Mrs. Hancock shares her husband's interest in schools and other public institutions.

GEORGE CHRISTENSEN.—A pioneer of the late eighties, who has unbounded faith in the greatness of Fresno County—and no wonder, for as a result of his knowledge of the soil and other local conditions and the conscientious care he has given his ranchland, he has one of the finest vineyards of Thompson seedless grapes in Fresno County—is George Christensen, who was born near Tonden, Schleswig, Germany, on May 26, 1870, the son of Christian and Christine Christensen, who were born under the Danish flag.

His father grew up on the farm but for several years was engaged in railroad work. It was while doing this work that he became disabled for life, his legs becoming paralyzed. For thirty years he was confined to his chair but he showed great fortitude, for he took up the tailor trade, which he had learned in youth, and managed to help out the small income. There were four children, and George, the only one who came to California, was the second oldest and is the only one now living.

Educated in the public schools, the lad helped his parents on their own place and when twelve years old went out to work on other farms to earn money to help support the family.

Five years later, he started for America, young as he was, seeing clearly enough to make California his destination. He arrived in Fresno on May 26, 1888, and soon found employment with Henry Larsen, in his vineyard in Washington Colony, at \$10 per month. After the second month he had work at one dollar per day.

In 1893, Mr. Christensen leased eighty acres of muscat vineyard near Malaga. He had a fine prospect, and would have made good but for the fact that the commission firm to which he sold his raisins became insolvent. He was left empty-handed and \$400 in debt, which he paid within two years, working at \$20 per month on a ranch and paying twelve per cent. interest on part of the amount.

A few years later he made another venture in the raisin business which would have netted profitable returns but for the unsettled condition of the raisin market in the days without organization. In partnership with F. J. Williams, for whom he worked five years, he purchased the crops on one and one-half sections of the Empire Vineyards for \$1,000. At the beginning of the season the price of raisins was five cents. They received four cents for the first load delivered and prices continued to drop. The packers would make no contracts, so they had the raisins stemmed and packed, and stored them in a Fresno warehouse. They received less than one-half cent a pound for two carloads shipped east for which they had been offered three cents! The raisins left in the warehouse were burned and, even with the three cents insurance, the loss was great.

Even after this curious and discouraging experience, Mr. Christensen was still determined to be a raisin-grower, and in the fall of 1901 was able to purchase his present place of twenty-two and one-half acres in Roosevelt District, and in the following February he began to set out his vines, doing all the work with his own hands, from making the cuttings to splitting the stakes



George Christensen.



Cecil B. Christensen

from railroad ties. Progress was slow the first few years. The rabbits ate off the young vines and nearly the entire vineyard had to be reset the second year and the place inclosed with rabbit wire. Then the grasshoppers took the first real crop, even killing many of the young vines. Small crops were raised between the young vines and Mr. Christensen worked out in order that he might make further improvements. The house grounds were laid out in a pleasing manner with fruit and ornamental trees and shrubs. And now he has good buildings on the place, a ten-horsepower pumping-plant and all the equipment for caring for the place and crops. This was the first Thompson seedless vineyard started in this vicinity, which is now one of the fine vineyard districts of the county.

Mr. Christensen has great faith in the California Associated Raisin Company of which he has been a member since its organization and is also a correspondent for his district. Some ten years ago he made the assertion that good raisin vineyards would sell for \$1,000, and his prediction has been realized, as some vineyards have been sold, in 1919, for as high as \$1,100 per acre.

On October 12, 1910, Mr. Christensen was married to Cecil Bemis, a native of Wichita, Kans. Mrs. Christensen is the daughter of Abel R. and Emily Blanchard Bemis, natives of Michigan and Ohio, respectively. They came to Kansas and engaged in farming. In 1903 Mrs. Bemis and her four children came to California, the father having passed away in 1887, and the mother makes her home with Mrs. Christensen. Mrs. Christensen was a teacher before her marriage, having taught in Kansas, and, after coming to California, she graduated from the Los Angeles State Normal School and took up her work in the Barstow District School where she taught three years. One child, Rose, has blessed their union.

Mr. Christensen has made three trips to his old home to see his parents. The last trip he remained a year to care for his father until he passed away, in 1904. The mother followed him three years later. Neither were privileged to visit their son in his California home, although it would have been his greatest pleasure. When young George started for America his father gave him this little piece of advice: "Always pay your debts and don't be afraid of hard work, my son." The first he has always done; the second he has met undaunted.

Mr. Christensen is a Lutheran in his religious faith, and a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, Sunset Camp, No. 7199. Mrs. Christensen is a member of the Rolinda Methodist Church and takes an active part in the social and civic life of the community. Both believe in heartily supporting the national administration regardless of party politics, in times of national crises, and in voting for the best men and best measures in local movements, and also in giving their financial support to all movements for the advancement of education and the benefit of humanity.

MARGARET B. LOCKIE.—Among California women who have shown exceptional ability in the difficult work of progressive and highly successful ranching must be mentioned Miss Margaret B. Lockie, the daughter of the late William A. Lockie, the well-known pioneer of whom mention is made elsewhere in this historical work. She conducted the home ranch, with her sister, Mrs. Lillie I. Pugh, after the death of the father and until the estate was settled. This vineyard and orchard ranch comprised 180 acres, and was one of the most productive in the Fowler district. A Democrat in matters of national political import, Miss Lockie endeavors to perform her civic duties in the same thoughtful and honest manner, and in all movements pertaining to local legislation and improvement, she is a leader in casting aside party lines and heartily supporting the best measures and the most desirable candidates. Miss Lockie is a stockholder in the First National Bank in Fowler.

After the death of her father, Miss Lockie was made the administratrix of the Lockie estate. It is a matter of local comment that she and her sister,

Mrs. Pugh, have taken front rank among Central California women for their business acumen and progressive leadership in up-to-date ranching.

Mrs. Pugh, who as Miss Lillie I. Lockie, was married in 1913 to John W. Pugh, who was born in Portland, Ore., on January 3, 1870, and died on April 12, 1917, aged forty-eight years. He came to Fowler in 1911, and prior to that he was in business for two years in Newman. When his life closed, the Fowler Independent very fitly paid him this tribute:

"Mr. Pugh was a successful business man, respected and admired as an honest and upright citizen, and his death will be deeply felt by all who came to know him in social and business life. He was a friend of the children of the town, and was anxious to provide pleasure for them. His broad and sympathetic nature found response in numberless friends. He was a Royal Arch Mason."

After the affairs of the Lockie estate were settled, Miss Lockie and Mrs. Pugh moved into Fowler, where in 1919, they purchased a modern bungalow residence in which they make their home. They enter heartily into all progressive movements for the betterment of business, social and moral conditions and have a wide circle of friends in their section of Fresno County.

WILLIAM A. JONES.—George William Curtis, the brilliant editor, essayist and orator, once wrote entertainingly of "The Scholar in Politics," and he might quite as profitably discourse today concerning many of the present land-proprietors of California, about the scholar in business, choosing for his text such a career as that of William A. Jones, the university graduate guiding the affairs of the Minnewawa Vineyard, of which he is the owner. His grandfather, John P. Jones, a blacksmith who afterwards became a farmer, brought his family to Wisconsin in 1848; and his father, who was born at Star Wales, was a miner and manufacturer who, with his two brothers, purchased the Mineral Point Zinc Company and made a great success of its management as an incorporated concern. He was the secretary, treasurer and manager of the affair, built it up and improved it, opened the zinc mines and constructed a large plant. In time he combined it with the New Jersey Zinc Company of New York. They rebuilt and enlarged the plant in 1910 for increased capacity, and he managed it until he died, in 1912, sixty-eight years old.

At one time his father was mayor of Mineral Point, and in that office, he exerted himself strenuously for the improvement and uplift of the city, county and state. He was vice-president of the bank, a member of the Wisconsin Assembly; under McKinley and again under Roosevelt he served as Commissioner of Indian Affairs at Washington, D. C., filling the position creditably. He was a prominent Republican, Mason and Knight Templar, and equally prominent in Scottish Rite and Shriner circles.

Mrs. Jones, William's mother, was Sarah Ansley before her marriage, and was born in Linden, Wis., the daughter of Thomas Ansley, a pioneer merchant of Chicago. After a life of devotion to her husband, W. A. Jones, Sr., and her four children, she still resides at Mineral Point.

Born at Mineral Point, Iowa County, Wis., on October 13, 1883, the second oldest child and the only son, William was educated at the Lawrenceville Preparatory School, and after graduating, entered Princeton College, where he continued for two years. Leaving college, he entered the Mineral Point Zinc Company's plant at Depue, Ill., working up in the manufacturing department until he became assistant superintendent. After three years at Depue, he was transferred to Palmerton, Pa., the largest plant of the New Jersey Zinc Company, and there he was assistant superintendent of a department until 1913, when he resigned and came to San Francisco. After seven months in the State, he returned to Wisconsin as foreman for the Leonard Construction Company of Chicago, and with that responsibility he was busy for several years.

Returning to California in 1916, Mr. Jones bought the Minnewawa Vineyard, four and a half miles east of Fresno; and locating on it, he has since given it the major portion of his time, superintending and managing the large ranch of 620 acres.

Minnewawa Vineyard was originally owned by Dr. Eshelman, who began improvements there about thirty-five years ago. It is situated on Sections 16 and 17, to the extreme south of the Easterby tract and in the northern part of Lone Star. It was afterwards owned by Mr. Eshelman's daughter, Mrs. Sherman, who named it Minnewawa, "Wind of the Trees." Fancher Creek runs through the place. It is also known as Washington Colony ditch. But irrigation is afforded in addition by the use of appliances never dreamed of by Mr. Eshelman—five electric pumping plants, the largest of which has a five-inch pump.

The ranch is devoted to both viticulture and horticulture, and also to general farming; table grapes are raised (emperors and malagas) and raisins, prunes, muscatels and some Thompsons. Five acres are set out in navel oranges; eighty-seven acres in olives, and of these thirty-seven acres are bearing orchards and large producers, some trees being twenty-seven years old. In the operation of the ranch, besides teams, the best tractors are used. On the property Mr. Jones has a beautiful residence of Colonial architecture, surrounded by a park of seven acres, including ornamental shade trees of numerous varieties. These trees are so placed that the Jones residence and grounds may truly be said to be one of the show-places of the county.

Mr. Jones was married at Piedmont, Cal., to Miss Emily Chickering, a native of Oakland, and the daughter of the late W. H. Chickering, a prominent attorney of San Francisco. Growing up, she received the completion of her education at the University of California, from which she graduated with honors.

THOMAS A. HOOVER.—The pioneer carriage and wagon manufacturer of Fresno, well and favorably known in Fresno's early days as the maker of a superior type of camp wagons and stages, Thomas A. Hoover is a native of the Buckeye State, born at Hamden, Ohio, April 2, 1852, and at the beginning of the Civil War his parents moved to Odell, Ill., where they lived on a farm, and it was in the district school of this community that Thomas A. Hoover received his early education.

When he reached his majority, Mr. Hoover moved to San Antonio, Texas, where he engaged in carpenter work, and for nine years followed contracting and bridge building. Afterwards he went to St. Louis, Mo., where he established himself as a carriage and wagon manufacturer, continuing in the business for a period of three years.

In 1887 Mr. Hoover arrived in Fresno, Cal., where he engaged in the real estate business; later on he opened a shop for the making of wagons and carriages, which was located on Merced Street, near H Street; one of his specialties was a camp wagon, which was so thoroughly and dependably constructed that it made its builder famous in the San Joaquin Valley as the manufacturer of the best grade of vehicles; all of his work being done to order. The name of "Hoover" on a carriage or wagon was a synonym for best quality and workmanship.

The advent of the automobile gave Thomas A. Hoover an opportunity to develop his inventive genius, and in 1909 he began the manufacture of auto springs and engaged in general repair work on automobiles at his plant, 1823 Merced Street.

In 1910 associated with Edward Downing he established the Hoover Spring Company at San Francisco, and remained there three years during which time he was engaged in getting the plant in running order.

Mr. Hoover has secured a number of valuable patents on his inventions, on six of which he is receiving royalties. He has four patents on automobile bumpers, two on automobile springs, and one on a tire carrier. These are

all manufactured by the Hoover-Persons Spring Company. In 1914, Mr. Hoover formed a partnership with H. G. Persons, and they conducted the business under the firm name of Hoover-Persons Spring Company. In 1917 he sold his interests in the company to Mr. Persons, but receives a royalty on his patent springs and bumpers.

The Cambria Springs Company of Los Angeles, is also engaged in manufacturing his patent bumpers. Mr. Hoover has retired from active participation in business, but receives royalties on his many patents and sees that his goods are kept up to standard.

Thomas A. Hoover was united in marriage in 1884 with Isabel Gorla, a native of Missouri, and they are the parents of three children: Gus L., who is associated with the Pacific Coast Lumber Company of San Francisco; Isabel, is now the wife of Richard Bensburg, Cape Town, South Africa; and Elma resides in San Francisco.

During the long period of his residence in Fresno, Mr. Hoover has witnessed its wonderful growth and development, and is justly proud of the part he has contributed to the advancement of the general business and welfare of the City and County.

EMANUEL MARION McCARTY.—A man of broad education who has good reason to praise California, for here he regained his impaired health, is Emanuel Marion McCarty, a Californian by adoption after no less than seven different removals from state to state in quest of the mystical elixir of life. He was born in Davis County, Mo., on April 12, 1861, the son of William McCarty, a native of Ohio, who was reared in Indiana, from whence he removed to Missouri where he was a farmer in Davis County. He served in an Illinois regiment during the Civil War; and he died a well-known agriculturist in Missouri. He married Eliza Jane Ninemires, who was also born in Davis County; and she ended her days in Missouri, the mother of seven children, all of whom grew to maturity.

The oldest of these was Emanuel Marion, who was also the only one to come to California. He was brought by his parents when only six weeks old, by horse teams and wagons to Woodford County, Ill., and when he was nine years old the family moved back to Davis County, Mo. Indeed the family moved back onto the same farm on which he was born, and while there he was sent to the local public schools which afforded very limited educational opportunities. He became, in more senses than one a self-made man, and he remained home to assist his father until he was married.

This ceremony took place in Gentry County, Mo., October 27, 1885, and united him with Miss Permelia Crume, a native of that county and the daughter of Francis Marion Crume, who had come from Kentucky to Buchanan County, Mo., with his parents when he was about eight years old. Later, they moved to Gentry County where they were pioneer farmers, and settled on government land that had never been tilled before. Mr. Crume served in the Union Army and now, eighty-nine years of age, he resides in comfortable retirement at King City, Mo. His wife was Sallie Jane Wheeler before her marriage, and she was a native of Gentry County and died on August 23, 1869, a member of an old and honorable pioneer family in Missouri. She had two sons and two daughters, all of whom grew up, and among these Mrs. McCarty was the youngest.

After this marriage Mr. and Mrs. McCarty engaged in farming in Davis County, and later they bought a farm there where they raised grain and stock on some sixty acres. On account of Mr. McCarty's health, however, they removed in 1904 to Cherokee County, Kans., near Chetopa, and there they resided a year. He then went to Texas for a few weeks, and when he returned to Missouri they removed to Kinsley, Edwards County, Kans., and after farming there they went back to Chetopa. Having improved his farm and worked it for awhile he moved to Granada, Colo.; but as his health became worse he remained there only a couple of months, and then he acted on



John Bohner



Emma Bohner

the advice to go back to Stafford County, Kans., where he farmed for another two years.

It was while there that Mr. McCarty learned of the Kerman section in Fresno County, Cal., and wishing to try the Coast climate he made a trip, in 1911, to California and purchased forty acres of land three miles east of Kerman. He returned to Kansas, sold his effects, and brought his family to California. The section around Kerman was a barren waste, and he had to cut the tall weeds to get a free place in which to build his house.

Since then Mr. and Mrs. McCarty have made wonderful improvements in their property. The land has been leveled and checked and sown to alfalfa, and they have engaged in dairying. He has a separator and sells the richest of cream. His ranch is on California Avenue twelve miles west of Fresno.

Mr. and Mrs. McCarty have seven children. Myrtle is Mrs. Moore and resides in Stafford, Kans.; Harvey is a farmer near Kerman; William is in the lumber business at Zenith, Kans.; Jesse Elwood served with Company D, 144th Machine Gun Battalion, Fortieth Division, saw nine months' service in France, was discharged and immediately took up his work with the Associated Pipe Line Company; Estella is Mrs. Eggers of Stafford; Sallie has become Mrs. D. O. Hansen of Fresno; and there is Marion Monroe who lives at home.

A Democrat in national political affairs, Mr. McCarty is a member of the Odd Fellows, being affiliated with Lodge No. 186 in Fresno, and he is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, having joined in Missouri. Mrs. McCarty is a member of the Royal Neighbors, and both Mr. and Mrs. McCarty belong to the Baptist Church.

Few pioneers deserve more consideration for what they have really accomplished than Mr. and Mrs. McCarty. After spending their all to improve his health they had to begin again here very much in debt; but they have made a real success of their management and they are now in very comfortable circumstances. Their daughter Sallie has also regained her health, adding to the thousands who have found physical salvation in the curative properties of California's wonderful climate.

JOHN BOHNER.—To rise from a position of obscurity to that of a successful viticulturist and ranch-owner, in a few years, is a record to be justly proud of, and in attaining his goal, John Bohner has merited and won the respect of his friends and associates in the Parlier section of Fresno County. Mr. Bohner is a native of Switzerland, where he was born on September 7, 1872. His parents were Frederick and Mary Bohner, natives of Switzerland and they were the parents of two children, John being the oldest and the only one now living. Both his parents are deceased.

John Bohner was reared and educated in his native country and in early life learned the trade of a butcher, but soon abandoned that business to engage in other lines of activity. In 1894 he immigrated to this country and, after his arrival here, gladly accepted any kind of work that he was capable of doing in order that he might quickly learn the customs of this country and gain experience. Sometimes he labored for as small a sum as fifty cents per day, but he was just as faithful in the discharge of his duties as if he had been paid ten times as much. This high regard for right principles soon gained for him the reputation of being a man of true worth, character, and ability. He engaged in the cultivation of grapes, to which he gave close attention, and in 1902 he purchased his present place of forty acres, located one mile northeast of Parlier. At the time he bought this land it was a wheatfield, the estimated value of it being only twenty-five dollars per acre.

Possessed with the excellent characteristics of his native country-men—thrift, untiring energy and a determination to succeed—John Bohner went enthusiastically to work to improve his ranch and bring it to a high state of cultivation. So well did he accomplish his aim that the value of his place has increased to such an extent that \$1,000 per acre would not tempt him

to sell. He raises mostly Thompson seedless and muscat grapes; eighteen acres of the latter kind average him forty tons. His land is scientifically cultivated so as to produce the best results. A view of his home and ranch will convincingly prove that John Bohner has made a decided success of his enterprise.

On December 20, 1900, John Bohner was united in marriage with Miss Emma Roth, a native of Switzerland, born December 15, 1877. She came to California in 1894. Of this union seven children were born: Elsa M.; Hans F.; Emma; Louise B.; Freda H.; Emil C.; and Frank G. The family are members of the Lutheran Reformed Church. Mr. Bohner is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. In politics he is inclined towards socialism. With the aid of his wife, Mr. Bohner has won an independent position in his community, and the family enjoy the respect of all their acquaintances.

GEORGE W. MILLER.—Patriotism is a strong family trait of George W. Miller, the successful dairyman of Tranquillity, as both his paternal and maternal ancestors were in the Revolutionary War. He first saw the light of day at Massillon, Stark County, Ohio, November 11, 1848. His father, Samuel Miller, was a native of Maryland, who came with his parents to Ohio. Grandfather George Miller served his country in the War of 1812, and Great-grandfather Miller helped to win the Independence of the United States in the Revolutionary War. George Miller's mother, in maidenhood was Susan Rice, a native of Westmoreland County, Pa. Her great-grandfather, Frederick Rice, served in the Revolutionary War, and afterwards settled in Ohio, where he passed away at Wooster. Grandfather Peter Rice also moved to Ohio, where he was a blacksmith and farmer. Her father was a prominent wholesale and retail grocer at Toledo, Ohio, until 1850, when he passed away. Her mother died at Chatham, Ohio. There were four boys and one girl in the Miller family, George W. being the youngest. One of his brothers, A. H. Miller, saw service in the Civil War, being a member of Company B, Forty-second Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, under the command of Gen. J. A. Garfield, afterwards President of the United States. A. H. Miller became a prominent man of affairs in Medina County, Ohio.

George W. Miller was reared in Medina County, on a farm and received his early education in the public schools of his district. Early in life he learned cheese- and butter-making in Ohio, and in 1877 he moved to Missouri, near Nevada, where he was manager of a cheese factory, afterwards becoming manager of a cheese factory at Sheldon. His next move took him to Chase County, Kans., where he bought a farm and also farmed in Elk County, in the same state. Having a desire to follow his trade of butter- and cheese-making, Mr. Miller again became the manager of the Sheldon cheese factory and creamery, where he continued for five years and then engaged in farming again. This time he located in Sumner County, near Wellington, where he engaged in wheat farming.

It was in September, 1909, that Mr. Miller located at Laton, Fresno County, Cal., where he engaged in the dairy business. On March 28, 1911, he purchased forty acres of raw land at Tranquillity, which he improved, leveled and checked, built a home and planted alfalfa and engaged in dairying and raising hogs. This property he sold in 1919, then bought twenty acres two miles southeast of town, made nearly all the improvements and lives retired.

In Vernon County, Mo., Mr. Miller was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Margaret McGovney, a native of Adams County, Ohio. This happy union has been blessed with seven children: Bessie, who married Charles E. Hull, who is with the Standard Oil Co.; Hattie, wife of Elmer Ayres, a dairyman of Tranquillity, where he owns a ranch; Roy, has a ranch of twenty-one acres where he is engaged in raising hogs; John assists his father in the work of the ranch and owns eighteen acres adjoining; Frank, owns twenty-

one and a half acres near the old home; Mrs. Sadie Pyle; and Fay, the youngest child, is also at home.

Mr. Miller is a member of the Church of Christ and was one of the organizers of the congregation at Tranquillity. While living in Kansas he showed his interest in educational matters by serving as a school trustee. Mr. and Mrs. Miller and their family are highly esteemed in the community at Tranquillity, where they have a large circle of friends.

ALLIE T. LEWIS.—A native son who, as a successful ranchman, stockman, dairyman and breeder of registered Poland-China swine, has done much to advance the best interests of California agriculture, is Allie T. Lewis, who has twenty-four registered brood sows and one of the best Poland-China boars ever brought to California. It is from the celebrated prize-taking Poland-China boar, "Iowa Wonder," which is everywhere recognized among Poland-China breeders as a world-champion.

Born on October 14, 1888, near where Riverdale now stands, Mr. Lewis is the only son of John B. Lewis, an esteemed resident of Fresno who was once well-known as a pioneer in the Riverdale sector and an extensive rancher and breeder of thoroughbred cattle and hogs. He was born in Bond County, Ill., in 1862, the son of Alfred and Rhoda (Powell) Lewis, who early came from North Carolina. In Illinois he engaged in agriculture until his death in 1879 at the age of forty-five. Mrs. Lewis, who was the mother of nine children, lived for a while in Selma. John B. Lewis, after availing himself of a limited common school education, remained at home until the beginning of the eighties, when he came west to California, accompanied by his mother. In the course of six years he was able to set himself up in the stock business in the Riverdale district, and there he lived until he purchased forty acres, nine miles west of Laton. Later he acquired for grazing 700 acres. With a dairy of forty cows, he became one of the leading dairymen of the county. While at Gilroy, he was married to Miss Nannie A. Turner, a native of Monterey County and a daughter of James H. Turner, who crossed the great plains to California in 1849 and again in 1852. He was a stock-raiser in Monterey County, but when he moved to Santa Clara County, he followed general farming. In 1883 she came to Fresno County to teach, taught three years in the Riverdale district, and also a year each in Santa Clara and Butte Counties. Mr. Lewis was one of the stockholders and first promoters of the Farmers' telephone line. Mrs. R. M. Cushman is the only sister of Allie T. Lewis and she lives on the old J. B. Lewis place adjoining the Alfred Lewis ranch on the east.

Alfred, or Allie Lewis attended the public schools of his locality, and at twenty-one he was married to Miss Ruby Pritchard, of Riverdale, by whom he has had three children: Vivian, Alyne and Johnny.

Mr. Lewis' ranch consists of 220 acres, and he milks thirty milch cows, and usually raises at least 600 head of hogs a year. He takes naturally to the work of the cow-boy, whose dress he often adopts; and he spends a good deal of time in the saddle. Mrs. Lewis shares his interest in the problems of the day and contributes what she can of time and effort to help along all worthy movements for the betterment of the neighborhood.

A. D. McKEAN.—A strictly self-made man is A. D. McKean, cashier of the First National Bank of Riverdale, and easily the first citizen of that enterprising town. He began his struggle with the world under the great disadvantage of poverty, and his schooling was very meager. His book-education was acquired for the most part after he came to California and after he was twenty years of age; and then, for several terms, he attended the public school and also took a course in a business college. When he thus turned aside to acquire his schooling, his time was worth five dollars per day, but although he fully realized the cost of the effort, he was resolved to get the rudiments of an education, at least, and a good foundation for business. Mr.

McKean is a good machinist, blacksmith, mason, carpenter, farmer and lumberman, and besides having worked at many different occupations, he has become an experienced and representative banker as well.

Mr. McKean's history is the history of real progress of Riverdale. He helped build the lumber yard and the cooperative creamery; the bank, the school, the public library, and he is active in circles of the Christian Science Church. As Riverdale's foremost citizen, he has been prominent in every good work, evidencing a public-spirited interest in every progressive movement. He has been called upon to lead in getting up "big things" for Riverdale, and so was one of the original promoters of the barbecue to celebrate the completion of the railway to the town. He was a leader also in arranging for the celebration at Riverdale, on November 11, 1918, when the armistice was signed and the town lined up with all the rest of the world in its declaration of unceasing opposition to autocracy.

Mr. McKean was born in Ontario, Canada, at Collingwood, on the Georgian Bay, Lake Superior, the son of Archibald McKean, a Scotchman, who was a saw-mill man operating in the maples and hard-wood lumber. He had married Ellen Stoutenburg, a native of Ontario, who came of a good old family which once owned 120 acres in the heart of New Amsterdam, later New York. Her maternal grandmother, however, was born in England. The parents were married in Canada, and while there reared five boys and five girls, among whom our subject, born on June 21, 1872, is the fourth son and fifth child. Grandfather McKean was a weaver who came to Canada when past middle life and for a living cut hardwood at twenty-five cents a cord. He died of sunstroke, being unused to the work and heat, the first year there.

A. D. McKean's early life was passed in the lumberwoods of Canada, and he remembers once having sold a number one matched seasoned maple flooring and hauled it twelve miles over mountain roads for twelve dollars.

He had almost no schooling in Canada, for he had to work very hard in the woods; and one winter in Michigan, when he was about seventeen, a heavy, hardwood log, two feet in diameter, rolled over him and almost killed him. Fortunately, the ground where his head struck was a mud-puddle, and that circumstance saved his life. He worked about at different places in Michigan and at Windsor, Canada, for a few months, and then went back to Ontario for a year, next removing to North Dakota, where he worked for a year carpentering at Edgeley.

In 1893, Mr. McKean came to Tulare, Cal., but after a couple of weeks, he removed to Visalia, where he worked in a machine shop. Then he went to Hanford and ran a portable thrasher. It was at Hanford that he turned aside for additional schooling. He attended the high school for two terms, and for six months went to Chestnutwood's Business College at Santa Cruz. From time to time he ran a thrasher, and for ten or twelve years farmed in Kings and Fresno Counties.

In the fall of 1904, Mr. McKean came onto the Laguna de Tache Grant, settling on the grant fourteen miles northwest of Hanford, then in Fresno County, but since the division of the County—for which he canvassed in 1905-06—in Kings County. He bought 140 acres on the grant, improved it, and lived there with his family. He went in for dairying, and in one year sold products to the value of \$7,300.

When the time was ripe for action, Mr. McKean helped get the right of way for the Hanford & Summit Lake Railway. He organized a company to put in lumber yards at Hardwick, Riverdale and Tranquillity, after the road had been built, and one of these yards was the yard at Riverdale. This was owned at first by the Hardwick Lumber Company, now known as the Summit Lake Lumber Company, and which was, in between, called the Deacon Lumber Company. He also dealt in real estate in Riverdale for a year. Now he owns a ranch of eighty acres adjoining Riverdale, and a ranch



David S. Zediker.



Alice J. Zediker

of 640 acres twelve miles to the west. He also owns an apartment house of ten rooms at Point Richmond, which he built. He lived on his Riverdale ranch until February, 1917, when he was burned out. He still maintains his active support of agricultural interests, and has stock in the Cooperative Creamery. Mr. McKean joined the Odd Fellows at Laton, but was transferred to Riverdale.

In June, 1913, he became cashier of the First National Bank and has been connected with the institution as a director and stockholder, from the start. The bank opened its doors as a state bank on December 1, 1911, with a capital of \$25,000, and with the following officers: John B. Lewis, President; Louis E. Gobby, Vice-President; Homer J. Hoyt, Cashier; together with these directors: John B. Lewis, Riverdale; Louis E. Gobby, Riverdale; George C. Aydelott, Hanford; A. D. McKean, Riverdale, and Homer J. Hoyt, Riverdale.

On May 8, 1912, the bank was nationalized and it is also a member of the United States Bank Federal Reserve. Its present officers are: John B. Lewis, President; Louis E. Gobby, Vice-President; A. D. McKean, Cashier; and William Becker, Assistant Cashier. Its board of directors are: John B. Lewis, President; Louis E. Gobby, Vice-President; and A. D. McKean, Riverdale; George C. Aydelott, Hanford; and C. A. Smith, Laton. The institution has a beautiful bank building of brick, two stories in height, which was erected in 1916, on the principal corner of the town, and in which the appointments are designed for both the convenience and the pleasure of the bank's patrons. It pays four per cent. interest on term deposits, and has a fire and burglar-proof vault and a manganese steel safe. Its first great aim is to cooperate with and help its depositors and customers, and this fact is fully appreciated by the community.

DAVID S. ZEDIKER.—A man who represents the best element of citizenship in his section of Fresno County and has always worked for the advancement of the general welfare, is D. S. Zediker, the leading apiarist and orchardist in the Parlier district. He was born in Iowa, April 28, 1861, the son of David and Eliza (Robbins) Zediker, parents of eleven children, nine of whom reached maturity. They are: Mrs. Sadie Marsh; John W.; Mrs. Carrie Foster; Mrs. Laura Aull; David S.; Mrs. Susan Woodward; Myrtle, married Lee Burton and is deceased; George; Ulysses G.; and Mrs. Emma Stump, all living in Fresno County. The father died in Iowa and the mother later came to California, arriving in 1888, induced by the glowing accounts sent back to her by her two sons, John W. and David S., who had come here in 1886. They came at the instigation of a sister, Mrs. Marsh, who had preceded them a short time. Mrs. Zediker bought eighty acres of railroad land, paying five dollars per acre; it was improved by her sons into very valuable property. She died in 1909 and her property was divided among her children.

David S. resided in Iowa and worked at farming until he came to California on a tour of investigation in 1886. He worked hard and induced his mother to migrate to the coast. It might be mentioned that, during his earlier years here, he returned to Iowa on three different occasions, but the lure of California was too strong and he returned, finally to make his home permanently. When he received his ten acres from his mother it was a barren parcel of ground, but he set to work with a will and today he has one of the best small ranches in the entire Parlier section of the county. He set out every tree, vine and shrub seen there today, erected all the buildings, leveled and ditched the land, and now has peaches, alfalfa, and a family orchard and vineyard. He has 125 colonies of bees and the annual yield of honey is about three tons. He is known over a wide area as a successful apiarist, as well as horticulturist. He is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and supports all measures for the upbuilding of county and state.

On February 28, 1917, Mr. Zediker was united in marriage with Mrs. Alice Loveless, a native daughter, born in Lake County, November 23, 1874. Her father was James H. Robbe, and her mother, Lavina Donahoo Robbe, a sister of John and Jefferson Donahoo, the latter one of the founders of the Fresno Republican, also the organizer of the sawmill at Shaver. The two brothers came across the plains with ox teams in the early days of the mining era in California and became closely associated with the life of the pioneer in Fresno County. Lavina Donahoo was married twice, first to James Henry Robbe, by whom she had three children: Harry, in Fresno County; Jefferson, in San Francisco; and Mrs. Zediker. Her second husband was a Mr. Bolinger, and two children were the fruit of that union: Hattie Pearl; and Willie, who is deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Robbe came from Iowa to California, and lived in Lake County at the time their daughter was born. After the second marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Bolinger went to Millerton, Fresno County, where they lived, the daughter remaining with them until she was eight years old, when she was taken by her grandmother Donahoo to Fresno, where she was reared and educated. She was married, first to John Bolinger, by whom she had a daughter, Nora A., now Mrs. Blakeley, of Fresno. Her second union was with John Loveless, and she became the mother of a son, Roy J. Loveless, who was educated in the Fresno schools and was employed there until he enlisted for service during the World War, on June 13, 1916, being assigned to Company B, Fifteenth Regiment, U. S. Infantry. He has been doing duty in China for three years and is still in service.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Zediker immediately took up their home on his ranch near Parlier, where they have entered into the social life of the community. Mrs. Zediker enters heartily into ranch life and is an able helpmate to her husband, and together they do all in their power to aid all worthy movements for the betterment of conditions generally in their section of Fresno County.

REV. SANFORD E. SETTY.—A man of splendid thought and attainments, who has given largely of himself in the most unselfish manner for his fellow-men, is the Rev. Sanford E. Setty, minister of the Church of the Brethren at Fresno, who farms for a living and preaches and ministers to the sick and the comfortless gratis. His life is noble, and his kindheartedness is fully appreciated by all who know him. As the first settlers on this section of land, the Reverend Setty and his gifted wife turned the wilderness into a flowering garden.

He was born near Sinking Springs, Highland County, Ohio, August 4, 1848, the son of Christopher Setty, who was a native of Adams County, Ohio, and was a farmer near Sinking Springs, dying there at the age of eighty-one. He had married Mary Schoemaker, who was born in Highland County, the daughter of John Schoemaker, originally a planter in Virginia who freed all his slaves and came to Ohio. He was a farmer in Highland County. The mother died at the age of eighty-two, having had fourteen children, among whom Sanford E. was the youngest. His oldest brother, Levi, is still living in Ohio at the age of eighty-seven. Two other brothers still living, who served in the Civil War, are seventy-four and seventy-six years of age.

Brought up on a farm, and educated at the public schools, Sanford studied much by himself and is, in a sense, self-educated. He early set to work on his father's farm, and he married in Highland County, Hester A. Leatherwood, who was born there. He engaged in farming in that vicinity, and during this time, in 1885, was ordained to the ministry of the Church of the Brethren, and began to preach.

In 1897 he removed to North Dakota, and settled near Devil Lake City, Ramsay County, where he homesteaded 160 acres and improved the same, erecting the necessary buildings; and he raised wheat and other grains for eleven years. He was a minister to the church there, and a liberal contributor to its church-building fund.

He moved west to and located in California in 1909 and bought a tract of twenty acres where a contract was made for one section for the Church of the Brethren by J. W. Brooks; and he was the first to put in a well and to set out trees and build a house. The other members of the Brethren did not come, but Reverend Setty stayed just the same and began to grow up with the country. He planted alfalfa and went in for dairying; and he joined the California Associated Raisin Company.

Reverend Mr. Setty was the minister of the Brethren at Kerman until it was discontinued, and since then he has attended the church at Fresno. He is a member of the District of Northern California of the Church of the Brethren.

Four children have blessed the union of this couple. J. E. Setty is with the Southern Pacific Railroad and resides at Fresno; George O. is in Le-moore; W. R. manages an elevator in Erie, N. D.; and Estella G. has become Mrs. Furlong, of Kerman.

SAMUEL C. SAMPLE.—A very energetic and progressive ranchman, who is engaged in grain-farming, is Samuel Sample, a Mississippian who is making good in the Golden State. He was born at Richmond, in Holmes County, fifteen miles south of Lexington on Cypress Creek, on October 17, 1877, the son of Alexander Dulaney Sample, who resides at Burrell. His parents, Samuel, and his sister, Annie, now the wife of H. B. Collins of Lone Star, Fresno County, came from Mississippi here in 1907, Samuel stepping off the train on the first of July; and the father, with the balance of the family, later. His brother, however, came to California only about two years ago. Samuel had attended Millsap's College at Jackson, for two years, while he grew up on his father's plantation in Mississippi. The mother died at Rorinda in 1914, sixty-four years of age.

Mr. Sample was married at Fresno to Miss Leora Schaeffer, a native of Fresno County, on October 23, 1916, and she died in December, 1917, mourned by all who had come to appreciate her sterling qualities.

In 1917 Mr. Sample bought 240 acres in the Helm district, about three and a half miles southwest of that town; and besides operating this land, he rents three sections. For the season of 1919, he has 1,000 acres of wheat and 100 acres of barley; and he summer-fallowed 800 acres.

His first experience in California farming lands and farming was at Rorinda. He has bought, improved and sold several different tracts, and he still owns forty acres there, half in alfalfa, half in fruit. He owns a seventy-five horse-power Holt tractor and a twenty-foot Holt combined harvester and thresher. A Democrat in national politics, Mr. Sample has found pleasure in supporting local uplift movements. Fresno County is to be congratulated on such enterprising and worthy citizens, intent not only on their own prosperity, but that of the community and the commonwealth in which they reside.

ALAN D. MILNES.—A Welshman from the county of David Lloyd George, who has made good in southern Fresno County, is Alan Downes Milnes, who now owns and runs a ranch of 100 acres devoted to dairy stock and registered Poland-China hogs, and he is one of the biggest buyers and shippers of hogs in his section of the State.

He was born at Kerry, Montgomery, Wales, on February 28, 1881, the son of James Mayall Milnes, who had married Agnes Mary Downes. He was a teacher in the parochial schools in Wales, and the parents are still living at the old home place there. They have had eleven children, and one daughter is deceased; nine are living in Wales, and Alan D. is the only one in America.

He received a good education and was brought up in the Church of England. Then he began clerking in a hardware-store or ironmonger's shop at Newton, Wales, and sold farm machinery—Massey Harris, McCormick, and the output of Walter A. Woods. Perhaps because of his association with

certain American products, he had a great desire to see America, and in 1899 he determined to take the step which must separate him, for the time at last, from his home and kin.

On June 1, he sailed on the Allan State Line, and eleven days later landed at Quebec from the ship "Tasmania." Havre, Mont., was the place of his destination, and for a while he worked there for Harding & Neill. They were cattle men, and he was out on the range in the Milk River Valley in Montana. Later he engaged with Senator Clark, and continued in the cattle business until 1902.

In that year he came to Laton, and three years later, on April 30, he was married in that place to Miss Lelah Lewis, daughter of Edgar G. Lewis, a native of Michigan, who had married, in Nebraska, Amy Hamilton of Illinois. The parents came to California in 1880 from Nebraska, and settled in the Red Banks district near Clovis. Now the father has retired and they live at Fresno.

Mr. and Mrs. Milnes resided at Laton until 1908, when they came to their present ranch; and nine years ago Mr. Milnes started buying and shipping hogs. He is an excellent judge of hogs and beef cattle, but it is as a hog buyer and shipper, that he is best known. He consigns direct to the leading packers at San Francisco and Los Angeles, and ships, sometimes by the Santa Fe, but mostly by the Southern Pacific, despatching from Riverdale, Burrel, Helm, San Joaquin, Tranquillity, Selma, Fresno, Madera, Caruthers, and other points. He is also a stockholder and vigorous supporter of the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery.

Seven children blessed this union of Mr. and Mrs. Milnes: Alan Lewis; William Everett; Charles Howard; Dorothy May; Agnes Lelah; James Earl, and Lloyd George. In 1918 the Milnes built their bungalow home. Mr. Milnes belongs to the Odd Fellows, of which he is a past grand.

EDWIN L. ARNOLD.—A native of Missouri, Mr. Arnold was born on a farm in Boone County, April 15, 1868. His father, George Arnold, was born in Ripley County, Ind., on February 23, 1831, the son of John and Jane Ann (Stackhouse) Arnold, born in Charlotte County, Va., and Preble County, Ohio, respectively. The Stackhouse family is of English descent, tracing back to the Mayflower in Massachusetts. George Arnold ran a flat-boat on the Ohio and Mississippi. In the fifties he removed to Illinois where they spent one year and then located in Boone County, Mo., where he was a farmer and stockman, until he died on August 25, 1913, aged eighty-two years. He had married in Indiana to Samantha I. Manaugh, born in Clark County, Ind., on June 5, 1834. Her father came from Ireland, when four years of age, with his parents, to Pennsylvania. His maternal great-grandfather, James Hutchinson, who was born in Pennsylvania, was too young to enter the regular military service, but drove a team for the Colonial Army in the Revolutionary War. Mrs. Samantha Arnold died while on a visit to Washington, on October 11, 1915, aged eighty-one years. She was the mother of fifteen children, of whom E. L. is the eleventh in order of birth.

Edwin L. attended the country schools in his youth, and worked on the farm. In 1885 he came with his brother, George A., to California, and for seven years worked on ranches in Merced and Stanislaus Counties. In 1888 he came to the Huron section of Fresno County to build a cabin for his brother, who had homesteaded 160 acres six miles south of Huron. His brother located in Huron in 1892, where he ran a store, was justice of the peace, and postmaster. In 1898 the brother sold out his interest and moved to Vacaville, Solano County. Our subject located at Huron with his brother in 1892, assisting in the Huron Cash Store and in the care of the ranch. In the fall of 1898 he bought a part interest in the Kreyenhagen Ditch and rented a section of land on the Polvadero Rancho, where he had a half section in grain and a half section in grazing lands, and this he farmed for three years. For the next five years he engaged in cattle-raising in the mountains.



E. L. Arnold

In 1906, Mr. Arnold was elected constable in a three-cornered fight, and reelected in 1910 by a three-to-one vote, and reelected again in 1914. He refused to run again for office as he wanted to give his time to farming. For three years he conducted a harness shop on Fifth Street, Coalinga, and after disposing of this, he again engaged in the cattle business with Paul Brix as a partner. Mr. Arnold has been deputy sheriff for twenty years, under four different sheriffs, and also has served as deputy tax-collector for the county for two terms. In 1906 he succeeded J. M. Atkisson as constable. Mr. Arnold has made a fine record as an officer. Fearless and brave, he has captured a number of noted criminals. He brought to book the notorious horsethief, Peter Tosta, who had escaped from the Mariposa jail, was sentenced to San Quentin, escaped from there and is still at large. He was also connected with the other ferrets in the Indart murder case, near Huron. He found the body in the creek bottoms after it had been buried for seven weeks. He has a number of other captures to his credit.

Mr. Arnold was married in 1898 to Lena Greve, a native of Petaluma, Sonoma County, Cal., and raised in Priest's Valley, Monterey County. Her father, Samuel Greve, located in Priest's Valley in 1886, and her brothers are prominent cattlemen in that district. Mr. and Mrs. Arnold are the parents of four children: Eugene E., Frieda I., Isabel, and William G. Mr. Arnold is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

THOMAS H. MULLINS.—An energetic, hard-working pioneer, who has contributed to the building up of his section of Central California, and who is entitled to all the success and prosperity those years of toil and self-denial have brought him, is T. H. Mullins, who came to Fresno on May 15, 1892. He was born in County Cork, Ireland, on May 1, 1870, the son of Jeremiah Mullins, an Irish farmer who died in 1916. He married Susan Sullivan, and she resides in the old home, the mother of seven boys and four girls, all of whom are living. A brother, John, served in the English army in Belgium and France; another brother, Daniel, is in the United States Army; and a brother, Michael, is in the employ of our subject.

The eldest of the sons, T. H. Mullins was reared on a farm and attended the ordinary public schools. In 1892 he came to San Francisco, and after a week's sojourn there, arrived in Fresno. He went to Fowler for four months and was employed in a warehouse until the fall of 1892, when he came to the James Ranch. With A. J. Anthony and Tim Hurley as partners, he leased raw land of Jeff James, beginning with 1,200 acres, broke up the same and planted wheat. These enterprising men pulled so well together that they were in partnership for eighteen years. In his partnership with Anthony and Hurley, they eventually ran 2,400 acres. In 1910 the partnership was dissolved, and Mr. Mullins continued on the Mullins Ranch till 1913.

In the meantime he supplied a man in his stead, and engaged in grain farming on what has since become known as the Mullins Ranch, two miles northwest of what is now Helm. This was on James' land—then raw, needing breaking up; and he had a ranch of 1,500 acres, which he put to wheat. He had forty-four head of working stock which he used with a combined harvester.

As early as 1908 he had bought his present place of stubble—200 acres west of Tranquillity, and he began to improve this to alfalfa under the ditch. He leveled it and checked it, and now he devotes it entirely to alfalfa. In 1913 he built himself a residence, barns and other out-buildings and moved here; and here he is successfully raising hay and stock, and also running a dairy. He raises grain, too, putting in 400 acres of wheat and barley under irrigation.

In matters of national political concern a Democrat, Mr. Mullins supports every movement to improve good citizenship, and takes especial pleasure in helping along, irrespective of party lines, any local endeavor having for its object the uplift of the community or county.

WRIGHT H. SPENCER.—A worthy representative of a distinguished old English family, the members of which have fought in practically all the wars from that of Queen Anne down, is Wright H. Spencer, a relative of Platt Rogers Spencer, the originator of the Spencerian system of penmanship, and the son of James W. Spencer, who founded the town of Caro, Tuscola County, Mich. He was born at Caro on December 27, 1862, while his father was a native of New York State. His ancestors were doughty warriors, when war had to be waged, and empire-builders when it was necessary to clear the forests and lay out communities; and he has an old English musket, bearing the date of 1762, which one of his forebears often carried into action.

James W. Spencer was register of deeds of Tuscola County in which he lived, and for years conducted an abstract office in Caro. He was also active first in the Whig, then in the Republican party; and was honored by his fellow-citizens with election to the state legislature. He was the leading merchant in Caro, was made mayor of the town, and was deputy county treasurer. Later he came to California to live, and died in Los Gatos, Santa Clara County.

Wright H. Spencer was educated at the public schools in Caro and at Goldsmith and Bryant's Business College in Detroit, learned the abstract business with his father, and was well equipped before he set sail on the broad oceans of the world. On April 26, 1888, he arrived in Fresno, and soon after entered Clark & McKenzie's abstract office. In 1891 the four abstract companies then operating in this city were consolidated as the Fresno County Abstract Company, and with that newer and larger concern Mr. Spencer remained for twenty-seven years, making his total service thirty years, when he resigned to make the run for county recorder. His platform was "Thirty years a searcher of records in Fresno County; honesty; efficiency, fidelity, and courteous treatment," and it brought numerous proofs of his popularity and the fact that he had the support of Fresno's leading citizens.

Mr. Spencer still owns the old homestead in Michigan of fifty-nine acres, where he was born. He resides with his family in a residence at No. 395 San Pablo Avenue, which he erected about twenty years ago.

He has been twice married. His first wife was Josie Shields, a native of Illinois, who came to California when a child, and belonged to a pioneer family, long active in Fresno County. She died on March 7, 1907, the mother of three children—Orland W., Lincoln A., and Mildred Josephine. Alice M. Parrish, a charming daughter of Los Angeles, became Mr. Spencer's second wife and is a very energetic and loyal member of the First Methodist Church and the Red Cross society.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Spencer are known in the city in which he has been so long a prominent figure as the type of American citizens for which Fresno County has long striven. Mr. Spencer is a member of the Woodmen of the World, the Modern Woodmen of America, the Odd Fellows and the Eagles.

CARL JORGENSEN.—A highly-esteemed couple long resident in Fresno County, who are deservedly popular in the Dania Lodge and the Odd Fellows, is Carl Jorgensen and his wife. He was born in Holbeck, Sjælland, Denmark, on November 25, 1876, the son of Hans Jorgensen, a merchant who lived and died there. He married Louise Petersen, a native of Sjælland, who now resides in Fresno. She was the mother of nine children, six boys and three girls; and all but two are now living.

The sixth in the order of birth, Carl attended the public schools and at the early age of fifteen came out to South Dakota. He went to Lake Preston, and for a while he was employed on the farm of his brothers, plowing and breaking the prairie with the aid of both horses and oxen. In 1895 he came to Fresno and here began his real career. At first he learned the blacksmith trade under George Larsen, with whom he remained for two years; and then, for two years, he was with Messrs. Ahrensberg and Lauritzen. Owing to an injury to his right wrist, he had to give up blacksmithing; and he therefore learned the carpenter's trade, which he has followed about eighteen years.

On September 9, 1899, he was married at Fresno to Miss Marie Seeberg, a native of Jylland, Denmark, and the daughter of H. P. Seeberg, a stationary engineer and machinist, who had taken for his wife Christena Jensen, a native of Jylland. In 1885 he came to Fresno and brought his family and engaged in farming, locating on White's Bridge Road at what is now Rolinda. The land was then all range and wild grain; but he started to improve what he had and soon made the holding tell another story. Selling out, he went to the West Side at Panoche, and took a preemption of 160 acres. Six months later, he returned to Fresno and engaged in farming. Two years later he bought in the Washington Colony and set out a vineyard. He was one of the organizers of the Danish Creamery Association. Eight years later he sold again and located in Fresno; and there, in 1901, his wife died. He continued in business for some years, but now makes his home with his children. Six children made up the family, and all are now living.

Mr. and Mrs. Jorgensen have owned several parcels of town and country property, but have sold them and in the spring of 1918 Mr. Jorgensen located on his present place of six acres on White's Bridge Road, three-fourths of a mile west of Fresno, a place Mr. Jorgensen was always desirous of owning for a home. The ranch is devoted to alfalfa and a vineyard. It is a fine place with old trees, both ornamental and fruit. Mr. Jorgensen still continues his trade in Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Jorgensen have two children: Ella A. is assistant bookkeeper with the Western Union Telegraph Company; and William is in the employ of the garage department of the Lauritzen Implement Company of Fresno.

Mr. Jorgensen is a member of the Dania in Fresno, and has been president of that organization four times, and was several times a delegate to the state convention. He belongs to Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F., the Encampment and Canton. Mrs. Jorgensen was a member of the Rebekahs and of the Lutheran Church, which her husband also attends. He is also a live supporter of and member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

ARNOLD HUMBOLDT STAUB.—An energetic and successful rancher and dairyman who, with his devoted and equally wide-awake wife, has amassed a comfortable competency and, what is best, with it the esteem and good will of a wide circle of friends, is Arnold Humboldt Staub, who was born near Winnemucca, and the Humboldt River, Nevada, on September 24, 1865, the son of John Staub, a native of Zurich, Switzerland. The latter, a fine stone mason, cutter, sculptor and marble-worker, came to Missouri and while there enlisted in the Union Army, having previously married Elizabeth Paine, a native of that state. He worked at his trade; and when two children had been born to him, crossed the great plains in 1864 with ox teams to Nevada, where he engaged in the stock business. The Indians grew troublesome, and he and the other ranchers took up their journey again and came through to California with their teams.

Arriving in Sacramento in 1868, he located in Santa Cruz County, took up a homestead preemption and engaged in stock raising. When nicely progressing, however, the good mother died, leaving five children—at present all living—among whom our subject was the fourth eldest. He was reared on a ranch in Santa Cruz County near Davenport, attended the public schools of his locality, and remained at home until he was twenty-one.

Then, for a couple of years, Arnold went to work for himself; but when his father became sick, he returned home and ran the place for him, and there remained until the old gentleman passed away. This was about 1890; after which he leased his father's ranch and ran it until 1906. In that year he moved to Fresno County and settled near Dos Palos, where he bought a ranch of thirty-seven acres.

On March 27, 1900, Mr. Staub married Mrs. Alice (Downing) Kelley, who was born at Camp Scott, Nev., in the same locality as her husband, the daughter of Jason Downing, a native of New York State, and a civil engineer

who had crossed the plains to California. He was married in Nevada to Sarah E. McCarty, whose father was Larkin McCarty, an early Californian pioneer. The father moved to Nevada where he was active as a civil engineer and then came to Fresno County, Cal., when Fresno was a small town, in its development of the middle seventies. She attended school in this county, and was married for the first time to James C. Kelley, a native of New York State and a rancher. Two children were born of this marriage—Earl L., who died when eleven years of age, and Maude C., now Mrs. H. A. McDowell of Coalinga, who has one child. Mrs. Staub's second marriage was at Santa Cruz.

Mr. Staub conducted his ranch near Dos Palos as an alfalfa farm for three years, and then sold it at a good profit, whereupon he located in the Madison district and bought twenty acres of raw land on California Avenue, four and a half miles west of Fresno, which he leveled and checked for alfalfa. He also installed a dairy, and had a fine herd of milch cows; and he is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers' Association.

Mr. Staub was first married in Santa Cruz to Miss Sarah Bradshaw, who was born in Rocklin, Cal., and became the mother of one child, Harvey P., who resides at Soquel, and has five children. The present Mrs. Staub is a member of the Rebekahs in Santa Cruz, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Staub is an Odd Fellow in association with Central California Lodge No. 343 of Fresno, and Fresno Encampment No. 78. A Democrat in national politics, he is without party hindrance in supporting local measures, and has served as a school trustee in Santa Cruz County.

J. L. NORMAN.—A prosperous rancher and resident of Kingsburg, who, as a boy experienced the disadvantage of being a foreigner unable to speak English, and who, in young manhood endured the rigors and privations of pioneer life on the Nebraska prairies, but who is now a man of affairs, influential in the financial and commercial worlds—such is J. L. Norman, the vice-president of the Kingsburg Bank, now the leading institution of its kind in that town, and one of the cornerstones of Central California's prosperity.

J. L. Norman was born in Sweden, near Fallköping, on July 26, 1860, the son of Andrew and Johanna Norman, who came to America in 1869 and settled in Saunders County, Nebr., where they took up a homestead and engaged in farming. After weathering the pioneer days of panics, grasshoppers, blizzards and cyclones, the father died in Nebraska, survived by his wife, who came to California in 1896 with the subject of this sketch and his family. The lad grew up on the Nebraska plains, with but three months of schooling a year, most of his time being given to the raising of wheat and corn, cattle and hogs, and at sixteen he did a man's work. A Swedish Mission was located on his father's farm; and there he was duly confirmed at the age of fourteen.

In 1885, when J. L. Norman was twenty-five years of age, his father died, leaving to his protection his mother, and the business cares incident to the Nebraska farm. That same year, he began to farm on his own account, and so continued in Nebraska until he came farther West. In 1888, he married Miss Elna (or Ellen) Nelson, born at Skaane, Sweden, who came to Nebraska all alone, in 1885, when a girl of seventeen. Mr. and Mrs. Norman had three children born in Nebraska: Horace E., Mamie, and Ethel. Horace runs one of his father's ranches, and is a graduate of Heald's Business College at Fresno. He married Miss Edith Peterson of Kingsburg; and they have one child, Mevin H. Mamie is a trained nurse at Dr. Gillespie's hospital, while Ethel, the wife of Charles A. Kolander, a rancher, dwells on Mr. Norman's other ranch, and has one child, Glenn W. Mr. and Mrs. Norman had two children who were born in California but both are deceased.

Coming to California in 1896, Mr. Norman bought twenty acres of partly improved land and planted it. Later he bought forty acres, improved it, and sold the original twenty. Then he bought another forty acres, partially im-



J. Bordagaray

proved, and now he owns two forty-acre ranches. These ranches are planted to peach trees and muscats, and this will partly explain why Mr. Norman was elected one of the twenty-five trustees of the California Associated Raisin Company, an office of responsibility that he still holds. That company has grown to be one of the largest and best cooperative institutions in California. Mr. Norman helped to organize the Scandinavian Mutual Protective Fire Insurance Association of Fresno County, Cal. He is its treasurer, and has served as such ever since its organization.

Mr. Norman is not only vice-president of the Kingsburg Bank, but he helped organize and found the same; he is a member of the Union High School Board, and a member and trustee of the Swedish Mission Church. Mr. Norman makes money, but he spends it also, and lets pass no opportunity to do good. He made two trips back to Nebraska; and about ten years ago he took all of his family to Sweden for a visit to his ancestral home.

Mrs. Norman is a devoted mother and wife, an excellent housekeeper, and a kind, hospitable woman, who infuses good cheer wherever she goes. She takes a keen interest in contemporary affairs and in the improvement of the community, and is unusually well informed. In 1916-17, Mr. Norman built a fine large two-story stucco residence in Kingsburg's Oak Knoll.

DOMINIQUE BORDAGARAY.—A successful farmer and business man among the old settlers on the West Side in Fresno County, is Dominique Bordagaray, born in St. Jean Pied de Port, Basses Pyrenees, France, January 15, 1876. His father, Jean Bordagaray served as an official in the customs house service of the French government for twenty-five years up to the time of his death, at forty-five years of age. He was a popular and prominent official of influence.

Dominique is the youngest of eight children born to his parents, all of whom are living, five of them residing in Buenos Ayres, South America, while he is the only one living under the Stars and Stripes. He passed his childhood in his old home and after completing the local schools entered college. His father naturally wanted him to enter the customs service, but Dominique had heard and read of the wonderful resources and opportunities in California, and so resolved to seek his fortune in the land of gold and sunshine. Through the assistance of his grandmother (whom he repaid from his first earnings) he was able to make the long journey to the Pacific Coast, arriving in Los Angeles in December, 1893. One month later he made his way to Bakersfield and there he entered the employ of a sheepman. In 1895 he came to Fresno County, which has since been the scene of his operations. He continued working for different sheep-growers, until 1898 when he went into the mountains in Millwood Basin for nearly two years. Always desirous for advancement, he studied English, not a difficult matter with his knowledge of Latin, and soon he read and spoke English quite well. From 1900 to 1902 he conducted the Pyrenees Hotel at Kern and O Streets, Fresno. Having saved about \$350, he resolved to engage in stock-raising and purchased a flock of sheep which he ranged on the plains on the West Side and also buying and selling sheep, at times having 4,000 to 5,000 head. He established a sheep-shearing camp at Turk, nine miles east of Coalinga, where for many years he did a large business. Here he was the first man in the district to use the modern sheep-clippers. He sheared on contract and had as high as seventeen clippers at work. He also built large dipping vats and over 110,000 sheep have been sheared and dipped at his camp in a spring season. He built a store, hotel and livery stable and did a very successful business. During these years he also made a specialty of raising fine rams which he sold to sheepmen, some years selling over 1,000 rams.

He homesteaded 140 acres eleven miles east of Coalinga, which he improved, cleared of mesquite and sagebrush, sunk a well and installed a pumping-plant, and the rich soil produces all kinds of vegetables and fruit, yielding

abundantly. He has an orchard of peaches, apricots, quince and figs, as well as a vineyard, and has also raised cotton on the place. He raises grain on land he leases from the railroad company.

Soon after Coalinga began building he bought six lots on C Street near Fifth, where in 1904 he built a row of store buildings. In one of these he ran a French laundry. Some years later they were destroyed by fire and he built the Airdome Theatre which he rents and is now run as the Liberty Airdome.

In 1913, a dry year, he shipped his sheep to Aspen, Colo., where he ranged them on the government reserve and when ready for market shipped them in lots to Denver, where they were sold. Having disposed of them he quit the sheep business and since then engages in general farming on his ranch. With R. W. Cain as a partner, under the firm name of Bordagaray & Cain, he is engaged in business on Fifth Street, Coalinga, dealing in confectionery, ice cream, soda water, cigars and tobacco, as well as running a large billiard parlor and carrying a large stock of goods in their business.

Mr. Bordagaray was married in Hanford to Miss Louisa Devaurs, a native daughter born in Merced, Cal., and they have six children: Albert D., Grace S., Rose E., Stanley, Isabel I., and John Henry. Mr. Bordagaray became an American citizen in 1912, and is a patriotic and enterprising citizen. Fraternally he is a member of the Eagles.

O. C. RUSTEN.—A viticulturist who owns a fine vineyard and has both the experience and the enterprise to cultivate and maintain it well, is O. C. Rusten, who came to California in 1901. His birthplace was Valdres Etnedal, Norway, where he first saw the light on April 12, 1858. His father was Christian Rusten, a native of the same place, where he became a well-fixed farmer. The mother was Sarah Rusten; and she, like her devoted husband, is now among the silent majority. There were six children, all boys, four of whom are living. These four are Gulbrand, who is still in Norway; Haldor, who is in North Dakota; John, in Iowa, and O. C., the eldest.

Having attended the Norway country schools, Mr. Rusten assisted his father until he was of age, partly in farming, and partly in the getting out of lumber; and then he worked on farms for others, until he saw that there was not much opportunity there for getting ahead. Much as he regretted the necessary breaking of home ties, he, therefore, concluded to try his fortune in America, and in 1880 he crossed the ocean and came to Soldier, Iowa, arriving at his destination without surplus means and even in debt. He went to work on a farm, glad to get ten dollars a month. Then he shifted to where he was paid fourteen dollars; and by the third year, he received eighteen dollars a month from an American farmer, Bell Wright, with whom he remained for three years and who finally gave him twenty dollars a month. After leaving Mr. Wright he went to the farm of a Mr. Emerson. In the meantime, in 1882, with his brother he bought eighty acres of railroad land at five dollars an acre, and for a while rented it out. Then he bought out his brother and became sole proprietor.

In 1888, Mr. Rusten was united in marriage with Miss Annie M. Rye, a Norwegian by birth. She was a native of Valden and came to Iowa in 1881. With her companionship and help, he located on his farm, and improved it by the erection of commodious and attractive buildings. He raised corn, hogs and cattle, and when he sold out in 1894, he received \$1,700 for the property. He next bought forty acres near Woodbine for \$1,400 and there he farmed for seven years, when he sold out for \$1,640, and decided to come to the Pacific Coast. In 1901, therefore, he came to Fresno. A month after his arrival, he bought ten acres near Easton, to the east of Fresno, but a couple of seasons later sold it, having found that it was not what he wanted. In the meantime he had bought two lots in Fresno and had moved his residence thereon. Then he was in the employ of packing houses for a time, and

the next year—that is, in 1902—he bought his present twenty acres in the Helm Colony. In 1903 he set out his vineyard and at the same time began the extensive improvements that have added so much to the value of the property in every way. He erected buildings and set his vines, principally malagas, Feherzagos and muscats, and also a small orchard of peaches; nor did he forget the importance of encouraging every movement to aid the growers and help him get good prices once that he had a crop. He was one of the original members of the Melvin Grape Growers' Association, belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc., and takes an intense interest in all that promotes progress along these lines. In politics, Mr. Rusten is a Republican and seeks to elevate the tone of civic life. The family attend the Lutheran Church.

CHARLES J. STONE.—As one of its foremost citizens, Charles J. Stone has been very active in building up the town of Kingsburg, and in promoting its business, religious, and musical life. Mr. Stone was born December 27, 1855, at Fredericksborg, in the Province of Delame, Sweden, a district noted for its lumbering interests. He attended the common schools at Sandviken and later at Hammarby. He learned the blacksmith's trade in his father's shop at Sandviken. Being ambitious for further educational training, he went to Upsala, in 1876, to take the regular normal school course at the Seminary, and studied there during 1877-1878. He sailed for America, landing at the old Castle Garden, New York, June 26, 1881. He remained in Brooklyn until November, 1881, when he went to Minneapolis, Minn., and began working as a brickmason.

Mr. Stone was married in Minneapolis, February 5, 1882, to Miss Helma Dorothea de Wahl, to whom he was engaged before leaving his native land. They moved to Ishpeming, Mich., in the fall of that same year, where he resumed his old trade, working in the blacksmith shop of the Burch Company, iron manufacturers. In 1884 they returned to Minnesota and became interested in land in Sherburne County, where his family lived while he pursued his business as a contract builder in Minneapolis.

On June 7, 1889, Mr. Stone and his family arrived at Oakland, Cal., where he continued in the business of contractor and builder until 1897, when the family moved to Kingsburg. He first purchased forty acres of land near Selma, living on it about four years, improving the land. He then sold, and bought 160 acres, only partially improved, near Kingsburg, which he further improved, building on it a two-story brick residence, one of the finest country residences in this vicinity, and a landmark. He gave twenty acres of this land to each of two sons, and sold the balance at a fair profit.

The town owes many of its fine buildings to Mr. Stone. He has built a good many of the brick buildings on Draper Street, Kingsburg's main thoroughfare. In 1912 he built the Kingsburg Hotel, a fine, two-story, brick hotel, 100 by 125 feet, in which his son, Fred, was a partner in the construction and ownership, and which later they sold. In 1917 he built the new Ford Garage, one of the finest in the Valley, a one-story, terra cotta building, 50x150 ft., now occupied as a Ford Agency and garage by S. Tucker.

Mr. Stone bought out the packing plant of the old Kingsburg Packing Company, in Block One, Riston Addition. He later sold out to the North Ontario Packing Company. Later he became actively interested in the organization of the California Associated Raisin Company, to which he gives his hearty support.

To Mr. and Mrs. Stone seven children have been born, of whom six are living: Naima Elizabeth, now the wife of Raymond Nelson, a rancher near Kingsburg, and who is a son of Presiding Elder Martinus Nelson of the Norwegian Methodist Episcopal Church, residing at Eureka, Cal.; Carl Gottfried, a rancher near Clark's Bridge in Tulare County; Lydia Maria, a twin-sister of Carl Gottfried, who died when six years old; Knudt Gabriel, who

served in the Philippines, is a bricklayer and rancher; John Fritjof, who married Miss Judith Lindstrom, and is a rancher; Lillie Ruth, who married Clarence Nelson, a bookkeeper in the Kingsburg Bank; and Albert William, who was for two years a clerk in the First National Bank at Kingsburg, later worked one year in the Farmer's Bank of Fresno, trained at Camp Kearney, and is now an automobile salesman.

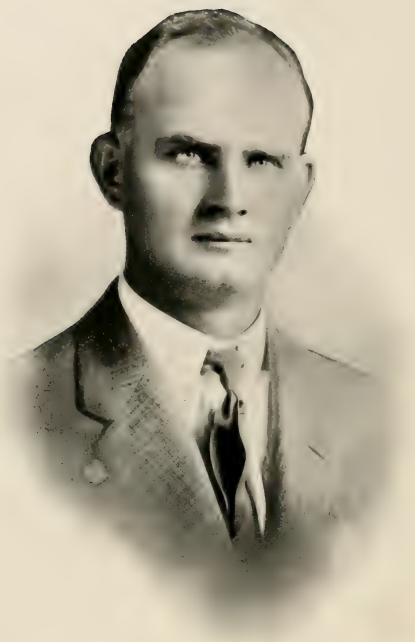
During his busy life, Mr. Stone has found time to develop his musical talents, and had become an organist and choir leader in his native country. He has been an active member of the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church of Kingsburg, serving as choir leader, steward, trustee and Sunday School superintendent. Mr. Stone has also given time to the duties of public office, having served one term as deputy assessor, and on the grand and trial juries. He is a strong anti-saloon worker, and stands firmly for right principles. In politics he is a Democrat.

GUS OLSON.—An exceptionally fine man as both citizen and neighbor is Gus Olson, who was born in Vermland, Sweden, in 1874, the son of a prosperous farmer, who is still living. His good wife was Mary Nelson before her marriage, and she became the mother of seven children, all of whom are living. Gus is the oldest of the family, and was brought up on a farm while he attended the public schools. At the age of nineteen he started for California and arrived at Eureka in 1893, where he was employed by Mr. Minor at lumbering on Mad River for a couple of years. In 1895 he came south to Fresno County and was busy for five seasons lumbering for the Sanger Lumber Company. In the summer-time he went to the woods, and in the winters he worked on the ranches. For six years following he rented a vineyard north of Sanger.

In 1905, Mr. Olson bought his present ranch. It consists of 100 acres at the corner of Braly and Olive Streets, and is one of the most desirable of local farm-properties. In 1907 he located on it and began improvements. Later he sold forty acres to his brother, and now he has sixty acres which he has developed into a choice tract. He set aside seventeen acres as a peach orchard, and has about forty acres in vineyard. He has peaches of several varieties, and Thompson, sultanas, muscats and malaga grapes. He also owns five acres of alfalfa south of Olive Avenue. He leveled the whole tract, it being quite a task as it was hog-wallow. It is under the Herndon canal but he has also installed a pumping-plant which affords him ample water for irrigation. In 1907 he erected a commodious residence, and his whole place shows the industry and thrift of the owner. He is a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and also of the California Associated Raisin Company, having always favored cooperation.

Mr. Olson was married at Fresno on December 22, 1906, to Miss Mary Nelson, a native of Vermland, Sweden, and who came to Fresno in 1905, and they have one child, Arthur. They are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Fresno, and Mr. Olson is a trustee in the congregation. He also belongs to Manzanita Camp, No. 160, Woodmen of the World, in Fresno. In national politics, Mr. Olson is a Republican, but he heartily supports all non-partisan endeavors for local improvement.

AUBREY WILSON.—A gentleman of personal qualities such as would spell success in almost any field of endeavor, who is not only well-educated but well versed in the ways of the world, a good student of human nature and a man of upright character and sympathetic temperament, is Aubrey Wilson, a wide-awake and painstaking undertaker of Kingsburg, where he has opened one of the best equipped undertaking establishments in the town. He was born at Henderson, Ky., on September 14, 1881, and in that state attended the public schools as he grew to young manhood. He also studied at the University of Kentucky, at Lexington, where he took a theological course, graduating in 1905.



E. L. Forthcamp

Having been ordained a minister of the Christian Church in 1906, in California, he held the pastorate of the Sunset Christian Church at San Francisco and then of the First Christian Church at Richmond; and finally he ministered to the spiritual wants of the congregations at Clovis and Selma. In the latter town he found still another field in which he could serve his Maker by serving his fellow men; and so he began to work for J. M. Byrnes in his well-known undertaking establishment. He learned the business thoroughly, from the scientific, aesthetic and religious standpoints, and gradually equipped himself to operate on his own responsibility.

Two years ago, as a licensed embalmer and undertaker, Mr. Wilson opened an undertaking establishment of his own. He has every needed appointment, including a fine auto hearse and a small chapel that meets all local requirements. A loyal, broad-minded citizen, usually working under the banners of the Democratic party, but also ready at any and all times to support every movement for the advancement of Kingsburg, Mr. Wilson is popular and widely respected.

During happy days at San Francisco he was married to Miss Gladys M. Brown, a graduate with honors from the San Francisco Polytechnic School; and they have one child, Audra Nell. There being no Christian Church at Kingsburg, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson attend the Methodist Episcopal Church there; and in this still following the straight and narrow path, he is reflecting honor on his good parents, W. S. Wilson, who is ex-chief of the police of Madisonville, Ky., and Samantha (Wise) Wilson, one of the noblest of Southern housewives and mothers.

It is a matter of satisfaction to the community as well as to Mr. Wilson, that he chose Kingsburg as the location for his well-conducted and highly appreciated undertaking establishment.

ERNEST AUGUST FORTHCAMP.—The son of a prominent pioneer settler of Fresno County, Ernest August Forthcamp is worthily following in the footsteps of his father, John D. Forthcamp, who was born in Hanover, Germany, and as a young man emigrated to America. Later, in 1870, he came to California, and after serving about two years in the regular army, began the stock business and was soon recognized as a pioneer sheep man of the San Joaquin Valley. In 1874 he came to Fresno County and ranged his flocks on the broad expanse of plain and desert where the flourishing city of Fresno now stands. This was at a time before any fence laws were put into force and there were but few small hamlets scattered throughout the length and breadth of the county. He took up government land near the present site of Sanger, proved up on it, and farmed successfully until his death. Mr. Forthcamp was a friend of the late Moses Church and from him bought twenty acres of land in what is now Temperance Colony, upon which he established his home and set out a vineyard, one of the first in the valley. He was also superintendent for different large land companies, setting out their vineyards; among them the Henrietta Vineyard, Margherita Vineyard, and the Weihe Vineyards. He was engaged in the sheep business for many years, and the returns received therefrom were the nucleus of the large fortune he made in land at a later period. He farmed on rented land and on his home place, comprising sixty acres now in the heart of the city of Fresno, and also engaged in stock-raising on a large scale in early days. When Fresno began to grow, he platted his home place, laying it out in small tracts, cut a street through the center and named it Forthcamp Avenue, which today is the finest residence portion of Fresno and which is fringed with fine homes of modern design. Since then, as stated later in this article, his son, Ernest A., has laid out the balance of the tract.

The father, John D., was married first to a daughter of Moses Church. She died, leaving one daughter, Mrs. Henrietta Webb, who resides in Newcastle, Placer County. His second wife was Lena Panneman, a native of Ger-

many, who came to Fresno County and here married Mr. Forthcamp. Of this union one child, Ernest A. Forthcamp, was born. John D. Forthcamp died in 1886, aged forty-two years. Some years afterward his widow married H. F. Ehlert, an old time friend and partner of Mr. Forthcamp. After their marriage Mr. Ehlert continued the stock business some years, then bought a tract of one hundred acres in Temperance Colony, under irrigation, and developed a fine property. He passed away in 1896. The Forthcamp property was later divided, one-third going to Mrs. Webb, who sold her share many years ago; one-third to the widow of Mr. Forthcamp, who also sold out; and the balance going to Ernest A., who still retains this portion of the property, where he lives with his mother.

Ernest A. Forthcamp was born August 19, 1884, and when but five years old came to live on the place which he now owns. He attended the school in Temperance Colony, the Fresno High School, and the Chestnutwood Business College in Fresno, meantime growing up on the ranch and learning to look after the vineyard and assisting his mother. Since he was eighteen he has operated the place himself, and has reset and planted all but one acre of the tract, raising the vines from cuttings. As he prospered he added to his holdings and there are now 140 acres in this vineyard. Mr. Forthcamp ships his own product. As soon as his malaga and emperors came into bearing he established a packing plant in the Forthcamp Vineyards. The green fruit packing-shed is located on the line of the Interurban Railroad, and here he packs his table grapes under his own brand, "The Gobbler," and which he consigns and ships direct to eastern markets. He also owns 160 acres two miles north of Sanger, which is improved with alfalfa and a ten-acre vineyard. Lately fifty acres of this tract were sold at a good figure. Mr. Forthcamp laid out Forthcamp Addition No. 2, a tract of fifteen acres, into city lots, most of which have been sold and improved. The home place is eight miles from Fresno and, with the fine highways and motor transportation, is easy of access to the city.

Mr. Forthcamp has in his possession the oldest safe in Fresno County. It is a safe that was brought from Millerton to Fresno, later was used by Otto Froelich in his store until his business outgrew it, then J. D. Forthcamp became owner of it and when he died it came into the possession of our subject and he treasures it as one of the old relics of early days in the county.

Mr. Forthcamp is a member of the Lutheran Church, the Fraternal Brotherhood, and of the California Associated Raisin Company. During his lifelong connection with Fresno County, Ernest A. Forthcamp has always been associated with the enterprises that have for their aim the upbuilding of the county, and the advancement of the general welfare of its citizens.

JAMES MARION YOAKEM.—A successful orchardist and dairyman, who early realized the possibilities of Fresno County soil, and who has made a specialty of peaches with which he has repeatedly taken prizes, is James Marion Yoakem, one of the most hopeful of American patriots. He first came to California in January, 1907, and ever since he really settled here, he has been laboring for the advancement of the Golden State.

He was born in Philippi, Barbour County, W. Va., on February 24, 1847, the son of John Yoakem, who was born in Randolph County, that state, where he also lived as a farmer, and died in Barbour County. John Yoakem had married Melinda Kirkendall, and she died there, the mother of five children, among whom James Marion was the second youngest. He was reared on a farm, attended the public schools and remained home until he was twenty-one years of age. He also taught school for two years in his home county.

J. M. Yoakem followed farming, and in 1868 came to Allen County, Kans., and after a while he bought eighty acres there, with which he engaged in general farming and stock-raising. About 1885 he moved to Chase

County and bought 320 acres. He broke the soil and raised corn and stock. He gave and still gives particular attention to the breeding of thoroughbred Poland-China hogs, both for breeding purposes and for market.

During this period he also engaged in the real estate business at Home-
stead, and while handling and selling farm-lands, he became interested in California and its realty. He was the representative, in his locality in Kansas, for the Irrigated Farms Company. At the beginning of 1907 he came to Newman, and after that he made several trips back and forth. He made Newman his headquarters for a year, during which time he investigated the lands in the Kerman district. In 1908 he bought his present place on Shields and Yoakem Avenues, paying seventy-five dollars for the raw land, of which there were forty acres; and he was thus one of the first to settle there and make improvements. He set out an orchard and also vines, and then sold ten acres, so that he still has thirty acres in peaches and alfalfa. He has taken first and second prizes on peaches at the Fresno County Fair, his fruit being famous for both size and flavor. He has a fine dairy and his herd is one of the best, and he is still raising pure-bred Poland-Chinas. Such were his losses by fire and through cattle-disease in Kansas that when he came to California he had scarcely \$800, but through his foresight and hard labor, he is now worth considerably over \$25,000. He belongs to the California Peach Growers, Inc., the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association; he was one of the organizers of the Kerman Telephone Company and was a leader in organizing the Kerman Creamery. Since he has permanently located here, he has, by advice and a helping hand, induced many to settle in this district and become home-makers.

While in West Virginia, Mr. Yoakem was married to Miss Anzina Elizabeth Wilmoth, who is now the mother of six children, four of whom are living: Laura, who became Mrs. B. Olson of Newman; Charles, a rancher of Chase County, Kans.; Eugene, in South America; and Ada, the wife of George Jackson, who is serving his country in an engineer's corps as a soldier in France. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Yoakem is a Republican and works for Republican ideals, but he is non-partisan in work for the communities in which he has lived, and among his public services may be mentioned six years as school trustee in the Dakota district, which he helped organize.

HENRY THOMAS WILSON.—An industrious, prosperous viticulturist, and a citizen with high ideals, who has been blessed with a fine family interested, like himself, in the preservation of local history, is Henry Thomas Wilson, who was born in Noble County, Ohio, on December 10, 1862, the son of John B. Wilson, also a native of Ohio and a farmer there. In 1869 he moved to Pike County, Mo., where he bought a farm and greatly improved it, following agriculture until he died, in 1881. Mrs. Wilson, who was Elizabeth Mendenhall before her marriage, and a native daughter of Ohio, passed away in Missouri, the mother of three sons and three daughters, all still living. The three boys are all in California, Reuben having taken up viticulture in Lone Star; James W., horticulture at Del Rey; while Henry Thomas, the fourth eldest in the order of birth and the youngest son, is a ranchman on Coalinga road, ten miles west of Fresno.

Henry T. Wilson was reared on the farm in Missouri from his seventh year, and there attended the public school, remaining at home until his father died. He really continued on the farm, in order to assist his mother, until he was married, on February 28, 1886, near Bowling Green, Mo., to Miss Oda L. Van Noy, who had been born at Van Noy's Mills, near there, the daughter of Nathan D. Van Noy, a native of that section, and the granddaughter of Dr. Nathan, whose birthplace was in North Carolina and who became an early pioneer of Pike County. He was the founder of Van Noy's Mills, and built there the first grist and saw mill, and also had the post office

there. The mill was run by water-power from Indian Creek; and the old stone burr still lies near the stream. He was a physician and surgeon; his parents came from Holland to North Carolina, members of the old Knickerbocker stock; and he was married in Tennessee to Miss Mary McMichael, who was born in Ireland and came to Tennessee. Mrs. Wilson's father was a farmer, and as a youth served in the Civil War. He farmed in Missouri until 1902, and then he located in Fresno, where he lived retired, and died in 1916. His wife, who was Julia A. Henton before she married, a native of Pike County, Mo., and the daughter of David Henton, who was born of English descent in Lincoln County, Mo., now resides in Fresno, the mother of ten children, seven of whom are living, and among whom Mrs. Wilson is the oldest.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson engaged in farming in Missouri, but in 1906 they came to Fresno, where the brother Reuben was already living and prospering. He leased the latter's vineyard of twenty acres and ran it; and he also leased other vineyards and engaged in viticulture on rather an extensive scale. At one time, in fact, he managed as many as eighty acres. He took care of the place until 1918.

In July, 1918, Mr. Wilson bought his present place of forty acres on Coalinga road, and within a few months took active possession. Since then he has devoted the land to alfalfa and a vineyard in which he has ten acres of Thompson seedless grapes. He uses two electric pumping-plants, with four-inch pumps, having one for domestic purposes and the other for irrigation.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have nine children: Mattie A., who is the wife of Lee Bollinger, a rancher adjoining the Wilsons; Bessie, who married Joseph Burford of Pike County, and resides in the old Wilson home; John B., a rancher in Lone Star; Cynthia, Mrs. Ward Bollinger of Chowchilla; and George, Nathan, Lowell, Reuben and Harold. Mr. Wilson belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America of Fresno; he holds consistently to the doctrines of the Christian Church; and is a Republican in national politics.

LAWRENCE WILLIAM CHRISTENSEN.—An enterprising and successful young man, who is known for his honesty of purpose and stand for what is right, is Lawrence William Christensen, who was born near Council Bluffs, Pottawattamie County, Iowa, on October 3, 1880, the son of P. N. Christensen, whose sketch is also given elsewhere in this volume. He was the third oldest of seven children, and was brought up on a farm in Iowa, while he attended the local schools there.

At the age of sixteen he came to California and Fresno County, and continued his schooling in Fresno, while he assisted his father on their home farm. When he was twenty-two, however, he began to do for himself, and it was then that he bought thirty acres on White's Bridge Road where he set out a vineyard and planted alfalfa. This he ran for three years and then sold it at a profit. For a while he located in Clovis, where he bought a ranch of thirty-seven acres to the north of the town, set out an orchard and planted alfalfa. And at the end of two years, he disposed of it at a profit.

In 1905, Mr. Christensen bought his present place of eighty acres on Coalinga Avenue, between White's Bridge Road and Belmont; and this he improved in his characteristically thorough manner. Since then he has disposed of sixty acres, keeping twenty acres of the most improved part for the site of a residence. He has good alfalfa, and well-bearing Thompson seedless vines. With his sister, Mr. Christensen also has another land investment; together they own twenty acres on Belmont Avenue, on which they grow alfalfa, and cultivate raisins.

At Fresno, Mr. Christensen was married to Miss Sarah Morton, who was born near Coalinga, the daughter of A. C. Morton, a Central California pioneer. He was a blacksmith and stockman, and has the distinction of



James Harlingen

having built one of the first houses on White's Bridge Road. Four children resulted from this union: Wallace, Ruel, Willetta, and Douglass, and each has brought cheer to the Christensen hearth. They attend the Seventh Day Adventist Church at Rolinda, for Mr. Christensen was one of the organizers, and has been a trustee from the start. He was treasurer of the church and was on the building committee also. He is chairman of the church school board, and with his good wife never tires in God's appointed work. He belongs to both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc., in which he is a stockholder; and he vigorously supports their policies for the advancement and protection of California husbandry.

JAMES FARLINGER.—A most estimable man of forceful character, who went through great hardships in life yet always met them bravely and without complaint, was James Farlinger, now deceased, who was born on March 1, 1848, in New York State. He received but a limited education, for his mother died when he was a child, and a disagreeable step-mother made his life at home unpleasant for him. At fifteen, therefore, he left to paddle his own canoe. He made his way to Saginaw, Mich., not without hardships and worries, and through resolute perseverance.

His first employment was in the Salt Works at Saginaw, and later he went into the lumber woods, and thence on to Duluth. While lumbering, he met with several accidents, coming out of the camp with one arm broken; and at different times he had his legs broken, on the last occasion being laid up most of the time for three years. He was headed towards the Coast and finally arrived at Lewiston, Idaho.

Determining to locate on government land, he went into Whitman County, Wash., in what is now known as the Palouse country, near the present Uniontown, southeast of Colfax, the county seat; and there he took a homestead, and at the same time a preemption and timber claim. This was in 1877, when conditions were as yet so raw that there were no roads, no bridges, only an overland trail through the country. He pioneered in the truest sense; broke the soil never tilled before, built a rude house, and made other improvements.

On May 31, 1892, Mr. Farlinger was married at Moscow, Idaho, to Miss Ada Marlatt, a native of Vienna, Ontario, and the daughter of George Marlatt, who was born near St. Thomas, Canada, and became a carpenter and builder. Her mother was Betsy A. Corless, also a native of Ontario. The father spent his last days in Ontario, and there the mother still lives. There, too, Mrs. Farlinger was reared and educated. In 1892 she came to Uniontown, Wash., where she had a sister living, and there she met Mr. Farlinger; and the acquaintance, so agreeable to both parties, ripened into marriage. The happy couple continued on the farm and were successful, but when their children began to grow up and they wished better school advantages for them, they purchased a farm of 217 acres about three-fourths of a mile from Uniontown, making a holding altogether of some 740 acres; and this they also improved with a set of excellent buildings and still own. They also built a large comfortable brick residence on each farm, and other desirable buildings, Mr. Farlinger always being in favor of building up and improving. He also purchased lots in the business district of Uniontown and built a large brick store which has ever since been rented for the chief mercantile establishment of the town.

Mr. Farlinger's health being poorly for some years, he rented the farms and removed to Fresno, where he and his devoted wife purchased a ten-acre vineyard about three-fourths of a mile west of Fresno; and they built a comfortable bungalow, in which they lived in pleasant retirement. Mr. Farlinger liked the climate and country, and was contented and happy in the sunny, healthful atmosphere; but disease had made too great an inroad on his health, and though he recuperated for a time, he finally passed away, on July 26,

1918, honored and beloved by those who really knew him. He was a good husband and father and his happiest hours were spent with his family.

Five children had been born to this favored pair: William, who graduated with honors from the Fresno High School and served in the United States Army until the armistice was signed; Fred, also a graduate of the same institution; Harry, also attending there; May, graduated with the class of '19; and Dixie, a grammar-school student. The last four are still at home, the comfort of their mother, who continues to reside in her comfortable house, looking after the affairs entrusted to her by her husband, turning aside, as opportunity permits, to do such good works as make their appeal to her, particularly those associated with the life of the Baptist Church, to which she belongs.

CHRIS L. HANSEN.—One of the most enterprising farmers and dairy-men of Tranquillity, known far and wide for his scientific and practical methods, and quite as widely enjoying the esteem and good will of his fellow ranchers, is Chris L. Hansen, who was born in Bregninge, on the island of Ero, Denmark, an island in the Baltic Sea, on August 29, 1885. His father, Hans Hansen, is still living there, a prosperous dairyman and farmer, but his mother (who was Anna Maria Christensen before her marriage), died in that place in 1911. She was the mother of four children, two of whom came to California.

The second eldest, Chris was brought up on a farm while he attended the public school, and when twenty-one years of age he migrated to America and settled for a while in Iowa, spending eight months in Audubon County. In 1907 he came to Newman, attracted by the superior advantages of the Golden State, and after working awhile for others, he leased a dairy and engaged in dairying—a department of agriculture highly developed in his native land.

In 1912, satisfied of the greater inducements offered by Fresno County, Mr. Hansen moved to Tranquillity and bought forty acres of raw land, which he improved by leveling and checking, and planting alfalfa. He went in for dairying and the raising of poultry; and since then he has steadily increased in prosperity, so that he also rents land adjoining and raises still more grain. As one of the best ranchers of his vicinity, he is an active member in the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association.

While at Newman, Mr. Hansen became the husband of Miss Egidia Hansen, a native of Denmark who came from the same locality in which Mr. Hansen was born; and one child—Marius—has blessed their happy union. The family attends the Lutheran Church and joins in all worthy movements for the betterment of the community.

Through just such highly intelligent settlers as Mr. Hansen, capable of helping in the great problem of developing the natural resources of the country, Fresno County has prospered until now it is conceded to be one of the most attractive portions of the entire state.

ANDREW C. CARLSON.—Enterprising, progressive, cultured, and refined citizens are Mr. and Mrs. Andrew C. Carlson, active attendants at and supporters of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Tranquillity, although both were originally members of the United Brethren Church, a denomination not represented as yet in the community. Mr. Carlson was born at Welton, in Effingham County, Ill., in 1883, the son of Andrew A. Carlson, a native of Norway. As a sailor, the elder Carlson visited many of the most important foreign ports of the world, and when he left his sea-faring life, he settled in Illinois. There he married Nancy Nelson, whose father was a farmer and a landowner in Effingham County and in time founded the town of Welton, in which place, besides farming, he was following a mercantile career. Andrew was the youngest of seven children, and both his parents died when he was about three years old.

Andrew's childhood was spent on the farm in Illinois, and he was educated at the public schools. When fifteen years of age he made his way to the outskirts of Kansas City, Mo., and there for two years worked on a farm. Then he removed to Hamilton County, Nebr., and again accepted employment as a farm-hand, continuing in that field and locality until he was married there, on December 15, 1909. The gracious bride was Miss Emma L. Donahue, who was born in Hamilton County, Nebr., the daughter of Charles and Martha (Brown) Donahue, natives of Illinois and Iowa respectively, and very early settlers of Hamilton County. Mrs. Carlson was reared in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Oliver, who were also early settlers of Hamilton County and became well-to-do farmers; and both now reside in Tranquillity, a highly-respected and much-loved couple. Mrs. Carlson, after completing the public school courses, entered the Aurora High School, from which she was graduated.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Carlson farmed in Nebraska until 1911, when they came to California. For a while they were at Dos Palos, but in 1912, convinced of the far greater advantages offered by Tranquillity, they removed here, and Mr. Carlson purchased twenty acres. Inasmuch as the land was not then improved, however, they grew dissatisfied and returned to Nebraska, in which state they farmed for two years; but seized with the same longing to return to California such as has impelled thousands again to cast their fortune here, they came back to Tranquillity and once more pitched their tent on the scene of their early aspirations.

This time they began improving their ranch, leveling and checking, and soon sowed alfalfa. At the same time they leased the eighty acres of J. C. Oliver, where they resided. This place Mr. Carlson also leveled and checked, and he has forty acres of it in alfalfa. Selling his twenty acres at a good profit, he purchased twenty-five acres on the main canal, which he is now sowing to alfalfa, and where he has demonstrated himself a thoroughly capable and aggressive rancher. Mr. Carlson is ably assisted by his good wife, who encourages him in all his ambitions and thus assists him in the most practical way.

Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Carlson, both daughters, named Edna and Frances; and perhaps it is because of their responsibilities and privileges as parents that they are so much interested in the cause of education, and the welfare of children generally. Mr. Carlson has served on, and is still a member of the board of school trustees of the Tranquillity district; and to this task he gives his most conscientious attention.

ELWOOD C. HEDGES.—An interesting representative of both a pioneer family of California and another of Oregon, with just such a winning and convincing personality as one would expect to find in an American whose forefathers had "been through" an experience or two, is Elwood C. Hedges, whose grandfather, the hero of storms and shipwreck, was for many years a purser in the hazardous coasting trade. Elwood C. was born at Albany, Ore., on April 20, 1892, the son of Joseph W. Hedges, a native of Philadelphia, from which the grandfather, Benjamin F. Hedges, came to California in early days. While purser on the *Czarina*, it was his lot to be wrecked on the Coos Bay Jetty, when he and two others hung to the rigging over night. They were Captain Dugan and a Mr. Millis, and they all fought valiantly for their lives, but in the morning they were washed away and lost; only one was saved out of a crew of nineteen.

Joseph W. Hedges arrived in San Francisco on St. Patrick's Day, 1876; and having in time learned the machinist's trade, he followed it there and in Oregon, where he married Sarah E. Howard, the daughter of R. V. Howard of Cleveland, Ohio, who crossed the plains with ox teams in 1852, and had become a pioneer in Oregon. There he married Jane Smith, a native of St. Louis, who crossed the continent with her parents in 1851. Mr. Howard was a

farmer and died at Molalla, Ore., in 1915, survived by his wife who died in June, 1919, at Albany. Joseph W. Hedges returned to San Francisco, where he still follows the trade of a machinist, and has recently given Uncle Sam a lift as a machinist in the United States Transport Service. Mrs. Hedges is also living, the mother of three children, two of whom have grown to maturity.

The eldest of the family, Elwood C., was brought up in San Francisco and there attended first the common and then the high schools. In 1908 he was apprenticed to a sign-painter in San Francisco, and after completing the trade, worked for the well-known firm of Riordan & Swan. In 1914 he removed to Phoenix, Ariz., where he established himself as a sign-writer; but not liking the climate, he returned to San Francisco eight months later and was employed by the Western States Advertising Company, until they sold out. Then he became traveling salesman for the Sontag Commission Company and represented them throughout the Bay counties.

In March, 1916, Mr. Hedges came to Tranquillity and entered the employ of the Standard Oil Company at the Mendota Pumping Station, and since then he has held the position of oiler there. He likes his work, which is the first condition to any man's ultimate success, and likes his employers, so generally known for their fair treatment of the employee; and still greater things may be expected of him in the future.

While in Phoenix, Ariz., Mr. Hedges was married to Miss May Jennings, a native of San Francisco, by whom he has had one child, a bright lad named Howard Joseph. He is a member of the K. O. T. M., and his good wife shares with him an agreeable local popularity.

ERNEST WINTERTON FOSTER.—Born in Belmont County, Ohio, January 19, 1875, Ernest Winterton Foster comes from sturdy Irish stock on the paternal side. His father, J. B. Foster, was reared on a farm in Ohio. He made one trip to California, remained one year, and then went back to Ohio and farmed until his death. He was a member of the Ohio state militia during the Civil War and served in the Morgan raid. He married Lydia Ann Gitchel, who was born in the Buckeye State. She accompanied her husband to California; and after the death of her husband, she returned to the Golden State and made this her home until her death. Her son Winterton took her remains back to Ohio, and she was buried beside her husband. There were eleven children in the Foster family, eight of whom are living, four of them being in California and the others in the East.

The youngest child of his parents' family, E. W. Foster was reared on a farm back in Ohio, where he attended the public school of his district to secure an education. He was married in Monroe County, Ohio, in June, 1896, when he was twenty-one to Miss Clara Mann, a daughter of Allen and Catherine (Truax) Mann, both natives of Ohio and prominent citizens and farmers there. Allen Mann served in an Ohio regiment in the Civil War. He still resides in the vicinity of his old home, aged seventy-six years. On February 21, 1897, Mr. and Mrs. Foster came to California and settled in Fresno County. Mr. Foster secured a position with what was then the K. and G. Fruit Company (now the Phoenix Fruit Company). His brother, J. E. Foster, was foreman of this company, and the location of their place of business was on the ranch now owned by our subject. In August of that same year, on account of the death of Mrs. Foster's mother, Mr. and Mrs. Foster returned to Ohio, where Mr. Foster leased the Mann farm and carried on operations there for years. His thoughts often wandered back to California, however, and in 1903 we find them back in the land of sunshine. He arrived in Fresno in February, the same month as on his first arrival in the state. With his brother he leased the Posson ranch, east of Fresno, and cultivated it one year, when the brothers dissolved partnership. E. W. Foster then became superintendent of the Phoenix Fruit Company ranch, taking the position in the fall of 1904, and has continued in that position ever since.



E. M. Foster

This company now own 700 acres, all in vineyard except 160 acres, which is devoted to raising grain. Mr. Foster has improved several ranches for the company, and has brought to his work the energy and efficiency so necessary to the successful management of a big enterprise. He employs from thirty to eighty hands in his development work, the land being under ditch irrigation, while he has also installed four pumping plants on the property.

Mr. Foster has never regretted his return to the West. He has purchased a ranch of his own, consisting of forty acres, all in raisins, and here has built his residence, besides other necessary ranch buildings. A liberal and enterprising man, he has earned a place in the county, and has materially aided in its development. Always interested in educational advancement, he has been trustee of Kutner Colony school district for the greater part of the past nine years. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Foster, four of whom are living: Fay, Beulah, Donald, and Bobbie. The family attend the First Christian Church in Fresno, of which Mrs. Foster is a member.

L. KRUSE.—Like so many of his countrymen, L. Kruse is a successful rancher and viticulturist in the Biola district, and has attained to his position in life through his own unfailing industry and thrift. A native of Laub, Samara, Russia, he was born April 30, 1874. His father, Carl Kruse, was also born there and followed farming for an occupation. He came to Fresno in later life, a few years after his son's arrival, and here his death occurred in 1910. The mother, Mary (Leikem) Kruse, returned to Russia, and there her death occurred.

L. Kruse was the youngest of three children born to his parents, and was educated in the public schools of his native town. His marriage there, in February, 1899, united him with Miss Mary Kohl, also born there. After his marriage he followed farming until the fall of 1899, when they came to the United States and for a time located in Dorchester, Wis., where Mr. Kruse found employment with the railroad. In 1900 they came to Fresno, and here he began work in the Craycroft brickyard and in the summer worked at hay baling. He soon bought a hay-press and engaged in baling on his own account, following that for four or five years. He then bought an outfit and engaged in grain-farming, leasing land near Sanger. He later raised alfalfa in the Empire and Barstow districts.

After these various enterprises, Mr. Kruse bought a twenty-acre ranch on Humboldt Avenue, Vinland, and operated it three years, when he sold it, in 1912, and bought his present ranch, forty acres in the Biola district. He later bought forty acres more adjoining, and now has thirty-five acres in cling peaches, and the balance in Thompson seedless vineyards, a valuable ranch, and worth the energy and perseverance which made it possible.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Kruse: Carl; Jack, Anna, and Loraine, all assisting their parents on the ranch. The family attends the Lutheran Church of Fresno. Mr. Kruse is a member and stockholder of both the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company, for he believes in cooperation of the fruit-growers.

BARNEY SCHULTZ.—A late pioneer who has been in California less than a decade, and who is much pleased with both the climate and soil in Fresno County, is Barney Schultz, a native of Illinois, where he was born in Grand Detour, Ogle County, on July 25, 1859, when he started on his career as a "booster" of the real sort for America and Americans. His father, Frederick Schultz, was born in Germany and came to Illinois when he was seventeen years old. He had married Lottie Miller, who was of French and German descent. Mr. Schultz was a fitter of plows in the employ, for eighteen years, of the Grand Detour Plow Shops, and he removed to Grundy County, Iowa, and died there. Mrs. Schultz now resides at Mitchell in South Dakota, the mother of four boys and a girl, all of whom are living.

Barney, the second oldest, was brought up in Illinois until he was fifteen,

attending the public school; and at that age he went to Grundy County, Iowa, and continued at the public school and on a farm. In 1884 he and his brother Herman removed to Sully County, now South Dakota, following a trip of investigation made the previous fall, when each located 160 acres and soon set to work to improve the same. He planted to grain and raised stock while he worked out at \$1.25 a day. They had to haul water four miles, but they succeeded, and he bought other lands. After improving what he held, to a high degree, including the erection of a residence and barns and other farm-buildings, Mr. Schultz finally sold the property and moved to Woolsey, S. D. There he farmed 233 acres and met with success.

In 1910, Mr. Schultz made his first trip to California, and bought ten acres in the Dakota Colony, and twenty acres in the Hawkeye district. He returned to Dakota, but sold out, and in the spring of 1915 moved here. He then bought twenty acres more and later added, in 1919, still another ten acres. Now he has sixty acres in all, which he devotes to Thompson seedless grapes, alfalfa and grain. He belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company.

On July 13, 1892, in South Dakota, Mr. Schultz was married to Miss Reno M. Livingstone, a native of Ontario, Canada, and a relative of Dr. David Livingstone, the African explorer and missionary. Mr. and Mrs. Schultz had one child, Myrtle M., who is the wife of Ira T. Maxwell. He served in the United States Army in the Great War, and is a rancher here.

Mr. Schultz is a member of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. He has for years been a Republican, and was once township supervisor, treasurer and assessor in South Dakota. Mr. and Mrs. Schultz are highly esteemed as loyal American citizens.

LEWIS W. BOYD.—A hard-working, highly successful couple, who have won the esteem of their neighbors and the confidence of business folk by improving their property and making of it a fine place, are Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Boyd, who own some very choice acreage in the Dakota Colony. Their names are well known to fellow members of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company, as well as at the California Honey Producers Exchange and in the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association.

Born at Goshen, in Elkhart County, Ind., on January 9, 1871, Lewis W. Boyd was the son of James P. Boyd, a native of Ohio who settled in Indiana as a farmer and served for four years and six months in the Civil War as a member of Company B of the Twenty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. In 1873 he removed to Kansas, and in Cowley County, near Winfield, he pre-empted land and supported himself as a farmer. In 1885 he removed to Benton County, Mo., where he bought a farm; and twelve years later he went to North Dakota and in Cavalier County homesteaded and farmed. He next removed to Goodwell, Okla., where he spent three busy years; and in 1907 he came to Fresno. Here, in the Dakota Colony, he worked for three years at improving a vineyard, after which he retired and took up his residence in the city of Fresno. Mrs. Boyd died on July 1, 1917, the mother of six children, five of whom are still living.

L. W. Boyd was the second oldest in the order of birth, and, until he was fourteen, he was reared in Kansas. Then he removed to Missouri and there attended the public schools; and he remained home until he was twenty-two, when he embarked in agricultural pursuits for himself by renting a farm. Two years later he bought some farm-land in Johnson County, Mo., and in March, 1898, he removed to North Dakota, where he homesteaded 160 acres in Cavalier County, then he purchased eighty acres, making 240 acres, principally devoted to wheat and flax and general farming. He broke the first furrow, and built the first house in the township, which was named after him, although the name was later changed to Seivert.

On account of the ill health of Mrs. Boyd, he sold out after nine years, and in 1907 removed to Stonington, Colo., where he bought 640 acres and went in for general ranching and stock-raising. He was disappointed in the district and in September, 1909, came west to California and settled in Fresno County. He had really been here the previous fall, when he bought thirty acres in the Dakota Colony. The land was raw, but he gradually improved it, and two years later he bought ten acres more. Now he has forty acres on Dakota Avenue, devoted to the raising of alfalfa and peaches and Thompson seedless grapes, and also a well-equipped dairy. Mrs. Boyd's health has improved since her residence in California, and she is able to enjoy life again while assisting in bee-culture, for which they have fifty colonies.

Mr. and Mrs. Boyd were married in Warrensburg, Mo., on July 8, 1893, Mrs. Boyd having been Miss Sadie Carter before her marriage. She was born in Missouri, the daughter of Charles Carter, a native of Kentucky, who married Elizabeth Br  wer. Mr. Carter served in the Civil War in a Missouri Regiment, and was wounded at Lonejack in that State. Mrs. Boyd was left orphaned when she was eight years of age and was reared by D. M. Mohler, until her marriage. She attended the public school and the State Normal at Warrensburg, and thus received an excellent education.

Six children came to further honor the name of Boyd: Eva Mae, who is Mrs. V. A. Martin and resides near Kerman; Jennie L., Mrs. Fay Smith, resides at Dunsmuir; Charles F. and Gladys Vera, in the Dakota Colony; Le Roy, who died in his second year; and James Earl. The family attend the Church of the Brethren.

Mr. Boyd is a Republican in national politics, but believes in doing a good deal of civic work regardless of party lines. In North Dakota he was one of the first school-board members in his district, acting as treasurer; and he has been sought as a school trustee here, which honor he declined.

H. W. McCULLOUGH.—An agreeable couple enjoying their attractive home place, and proud of their American citizenship since they have a son in the United States service, are H. W. McCullough and his estimable wife. He was born near Pittsburg, Pa., in 1866, the son of Isaac McCullough, also a native of Pennsylvania, who was a farmer and died on the farm where he had a coal mine that he long operated, and who married Sarah McGuire, native of that locality, and who also died near the scene of her birth. She was beloved by nine children, among whom our subject was the second youngest.

The father having died when H. W. was nine years of age, the lad remained at home with his mother until he was eighteen, in the meantime attending the public school. Then he started in coal-mining for himself, and for fourteen years was interested in that line of enterprise. At Indiana, Indiana County, Pa., on October 1, 1889, Mr. McCullough was married to Miss Della Lewis, a native of that county, and the daughter of James Lewis who was born in Bedford County, the same state, and who was a tanner by trade. He became a farmer in Indiana County, and engaged in lumbering. Her mother was Christiana Longwell before her marriage, and she was born in Huntington County, Pa. Both parents died in Indiana County. Their family included twelve children, five of whom are still living, and Mrs. McCullough was the second youngest.

In 1911, Mr. McCullough quit coal-mining and came to California. For three years he traveled the state prospecting for a home, and he then chose Fresno County as offering the greatest inducements.

In 1914, therefore, he bought twenty acres of raw land in Barstow Colony, and by hard work and skilful management, he improved the land, and now has eight acres devoted to alfalfa, and he has ten acres in a muscat vineyard. He also has a small dairy with eight cows, and the whole farm is well irrigated. Mr. McCullough is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and is alive to the interests of ranchmen generally.

Five children have blessed the married life of Mr. and Mrs. McCullough: Dale, who is in Richmond with the Standard Oil Company; Joseph, in the aviation section of the United States Signal Corps; Gladys, who married Carl Schlotthauer, and lives at Barstow; Lois, who is the wife of Lawrence Maneely, a rancher in Barstow; and Kermit, who is at home.

Mr. McCullough takes an intelligent interest in national politics, and adheres to the principles of the Republican party. In local movements, he discards party lines and supports the best men and the best measures. Mr. and Mrs. McCullough do what they can to maintain a lively and wholesome social spirit in the community, and Mr. McCullough is active in the order of the Woodmen of the World.

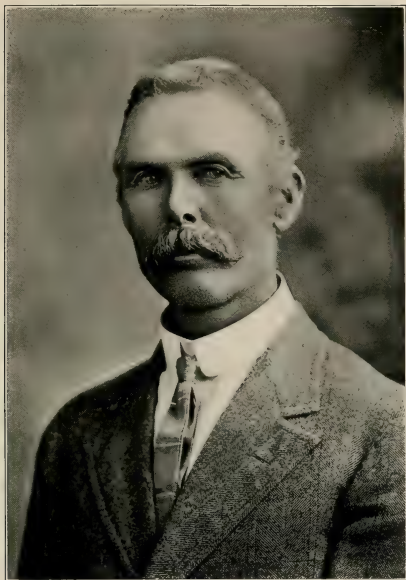
ANDREW H. STAY.—One of the highly respected citizens of the Wahtoke district in Fresno County, where he has lived since December, 1905, is A. H. Stay. Mr. Stay purchased his ranch when the land was in its primitive condition, and he has developed it to a high degree of productiveness, by setting out grapevines, peach and apricot trees, and sowing alfalfa, besides erecting a comfortable home. Much of his time, since he came to the county, in May, 1901, has been devoted to the growing of grapes. Mr. Stay's success as a viticulturist and horticulturist is the result of persistent industry, and his ranch has become one of the show places of the Reedley section.

Mr. Stay was born in Central Norway, on September 9, 1863, a son of Hans and Christense Stay, also natives of the land of Vikings. His father died in Norway, and, in 1881, the widow with her eight children immigrated to the United States, locating in Minnesota, where she had a son, who had come in 1880, and there the family lived twenty years. In 1901, A. H. Stay migrated to California and settled in Fresno County, buying twenty acres south of Fresno, which proved to be alkali land and which he sold three years later. In 1905 he bought his present place of twenty acres, and by practical commonsense and hard work he has demonstrated his worth as a public-spirited and progressive man.

In 1885, Mr. Stay was united in marriage with Miss Amelia Erickson, and they had five children: Henry; Peter; Jennie (deceased); Cora; and Clarence. The latter enlisted, in October, 1917, for service in the United States Army, and was attached to the American Expeditionary Forces, Forty-first Division, and served from January, 1918, till April, 1919, in France, when he was discharged. Mrs. Amelia Stay passed away in 1897. For his second wife Mr. Stay married Miss Ragnhild Lisdal, and to them were born nine children, six of whom are living: Esther; Ruth; Reuben; Rachael; Joseph; and Hannah. Mrs. Stay died in 1912. Notwithstanding these sorrows and bereavements, the declaration of Mr. Stay is "the Lord hath been good to me."

Mr. Stay served three years as school trustee in Wahtoke district. He belongs to the Raisin and the Peach Growers Associations. He attends the Pentecostal Church.

WILLIAM H. BERG.—One of the best known citizens of Dakota Colony, Fresno County, a man chosen by the Kerman Telephone Company because of his dependability, as well as his special ability, to have charge of their lines and central office at Kerman, is William H. Berg, who is also a successful viticulturist. He is a native of Pawnee City, Pawnee County, Nebr., where he first saw the light of day on December 29, 1877. His parents, Fritz and Anna (Liver) Berg, were natives of Germany. The father came to America when a young man, settling in the State of New York, from where he migrated to Pawnee City, Nebr., and engaged in farming. Afterwards he moved farther westward, locating at Vancouver, Wash., where he followed farming for fifteen years; later he removed to North Yamhill, Ore., where he purchased a farm, and while residing there passed away. The mother now lives at Walla Walla, Wash.



Andrew H. Stay

Mr. and Mrs. Fritz Berg were the parents of seven children, four of whom are living, William H., of this review, being the second youngest. William was one year of age when his parents removed to Vancouver, Wash. He attended the public school of his district while living in that state, and afterwards pursued his studies at Walla Walla public school and Whitman College. After one year at college he left his studies to engage in the grocery business at Portland, Ore. Afterwards he followed the trade of an electrician in Walla Walla, and several years later was engaged in the same line of work at the Bremerton Navy Yard.

In 1913, W. H. Berg came to Fresno County, Cal., where, through the influence of a friend, he purchased twenty acres in the Dakota Colony. He located on this ranch, improved it with a residence, pumping plant, and set it out to Thompson seedless grapes. Being an expert electrician, Mr. Berg was given charge of the lines and central office of the Kerman Telephone Company, and by his efficiency and courteous treatment of its patrons, he has given the most satisfactory service.

On June 31, 1917, William H. Berg was united in marriage with Miss Ellen B. Nelson, a native of Minnesota, the ceremony being solemnized in San Francisco. Fraternally, Mr. Berg is a member of the K. O. T. M., and Order of United Artisans; commercially he is a loyal member of the California Associated Raisin Company. In 1919, Mr. Berg added to his holdings by the purchase of ten acres across the road from his residence, which will be set to emperor grapes.

Mr. and Mrs. Berg are both highly respected in the community and enjoy a large circle of friends.

JAMES McCONNELL MARSHALL.—A descendant of the Marshall family, of Scotch-Irish origin, which located in Virginia in Colonial days, James M. Marshall of Parlier, represents the California branch of this well known family. He was born in Allegheny County, Pa., September 7, 1849, the son of John and Margaret (McFarland) Marshall, natives of Pennsylvania. His father was a master mechanic by trade and, when James M. was four years of age, removed with his wife and three children, Cordella, Theophilus, and James McConnell, all born in Pennsylvania, to the state of Ohio. There they sojourned a little less than three years, removing at the end of that time to Perry County, Ill., where the father continued his occupation of master mechanic, doing cabinet-work mostly, until stricken with paralysis, from the effect of which he died three years after J. M. came to California. The mother passed to her reward about three years prior to her husband's death. At the time of his death the father was reasonably well-to-do, owning 120 acres of land in Perry County, Ill.

Of their six children, one child was born and died in Ohio, and two were born in Illinois: Ammy died at the age of seventeen in Illinois; Ed died in that state at the age of thirty, leaving a wife and three children; Theophilus enlisted in the Union Army in 1863 and died at Little Rock, Ark.; Cordella, married Milton Corrigan, a farmer of Perry County, and died several years ago, leaving eight children to mourn her loss.

James M., the only survivor of his immediate family, was brought up in Perry County, Ill., from the age of six years, and, as a small lad of nine, worked on his father's farm, driving a team in the fields. He received an average common-school education and at the age of twenty-one was united in wedlock with Miss Amy Ann King, continuing the occupation of farming in Perry County, Ill., until 1884. Before leaving Illinois he was taken with pneumonia, and while in the convalescent stage suffered a relapse. Threatened with quick consumption, the precarious state of his health caused his decision, in 1884, to remove with his wife and two children to the milder climate of California. During the first two years in his new home he was a very sick man and then experienced the darkest hours of his entire life. At

this time had he had the means he would have returned to Illinois to die. Recovering his health, he decided to remain in the new home. The country grew, more people came, more ditches were being built, and after 1887 the business outlook generally improved. In the fall of 1886 he purchased eighty acres from the Southern Pacific Railway Company. After improving the property he sold one-half of it about twelve years ago, and today owns forty acres of well improved land. Mr. Marshall helped to build the Center-ville and Kingsburg Ditch as well as many of the minor laterals. This ditch is now under the Consolidated Ditch Company, the Cold Slough branch of which passes along the east line of his land and furnishes an abundance of water for irrigation. As an emergency measure he has installed a twenty-horsepower gasoline engine and a six-inch centrifugal pump, solving his water supply for irrigation purposes. A two-horsepower gasoline engine pumps water in a tank for domestic and stock purposes.

Mr. Marshall has been married three times. His first wife, who was the mother of his eight children, died in 1902 and is buried in Mendocino Cemetery, Fresno County. Two of their children were born in Illinois. Wallace was five years of age and Agnes two when their parents removed to California. Homer, Dolly, Jessie, Blanche, Horace and Della were born in Fresno County. The eight children are all living; the girls are married and Homer served in the United States Army. Mr. Marshall's second marriage proved uncongenial, resulting in a divorce. His third marriage occurred June 18, 1915, when he was united to Mrs. Irene Jones, nee Irene Conley, a native of Tulare County, Cal., who was divorced from her first husband, the father of her two children, Paul and Ruth by name.

Mr. Marshall helped to promote the oil interests of the county at Coal-inga, the venture proving disastrous financially for him, resulting in the loss of about six thousand dollars. He is an honest, hard-working and successful man, highly respected by his friends and neighbors, and has done much general welfare work, donating largely to the Christian Society, the Young Men's Christian Association, and the Red Cross, as well as purchasing Liberty Bonds. He served as a school trustee in both the River Bend and Parlier districts.

JOHN W. WALTER.—Missouri has contributed many of the most successful and influential of California's pioneers, and among those who have participated in the great work of developing the State, is John W. Walter, who was born in Andrew County, north of St. Joseph, on December 31, 1881. His father was J. W. Walter, also a Missourian, and his grandfather was Peter Walter, one of the early settlers of the county, and a farmer who was well known in his time. J. W. Walter, Sr., was a farmer who was privileged to retire and spend his last days with his sons in Empire, Cal., where he died in 1915, at the age of sixty years. Mrs. Walter was Laurette McKee before her marriage, and she was born in Missouri, of New England ancestry, and died where she was born. She was the mother of five children, three of whom are still living. One brother, Samuel B. Walter, is a viticulturist in Empire.

The youngest in the family, John W., was brought up on the farm in Missouri and there attended the public school. His mother died when he was nine years old, and he then went to work for an uncle and made his own way in the world. He was employed in farm-work until 1899, when he removed to Sterling, Colo., where he found a place on a cattle-ranch. There for three years, he rode the range for McPhie & Mullen of Denver on their Box J ranch, after which he returned to Missouri. He put in a year there in farm work, and then went to Utah. He learned the blacksmith trade, beginning as a helper for the Utah Construction Company at Ogden, then engaged in the building of the Western Pacific Railroad; and three years later he became blacksmith. This engagement brought him in time to Spring Garden, Cal., where he continued to work on the laying of the Western Pacific Railroad. He ran a fire



A. J. Armandon

for four years, and then returned to the shops at Ogden for another two years.

In 1912, Mr. Walter came out to Fresno County on a visit, and liking the country and climate, he bought twenty acres in Empire Colony, and located on it. He built a residence and made improvements, and now he has a fine vineyard and five acres of muir and lovell peaches. He is a member and a stockholder in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. He also belongs to the Valley Fruit Growers Association and to the Fresno County Farm Bureau. While at Ogden, Mr. Walter was married to Miss Elizabeth Galt, a native of that city, and the daughter of Mathew and Elizabeth Galt, who came from Scotland and early settled at Ogden. Mr. and Mrs. Walter have two children: Violet Muriel and Bettie May.

Mr. Walter was made a Mason in Plumas Lodge, No. 61, at Quincy, Cal., and is still a member there. He belongs to the Democratic party, but in local endeavors he disregards party lines, and is ever ready to work for greater California.

ALFRED JOSEPH ARNAUDON.—A family long known throughout Fresno County, particularly in the western section, has lost none of its prestige through the forceful business career of Alfred Joseph Arnaudon, whose splendid energies and dauntless courage have enabled him to amass an independent fortune. As the pioneer merchant of Mendota he has been connected with its upbuilding from its beginning, having been a resident of the vicinity before the advent of the railroad and was one of the first to aid in the development of the arid lands by irrigation and intensive farming.

Arnaudon is a native of France, born at Gap, Hautes Alps, October 14, 1853, and received a good education in his native land. He also learned stockraising at home, thus laying the foundation for his work in this country. When nineteen years of age he came to the United States, leaving France in December, 1871, and landing in New York with only twenty dollars in his pockets. Nothing daunted, however, he began his hunt for fortune in the new country, and February, 1872, found him in San Francisco. He went to work for the Remillard Brothers in their brickyard in San Rafael, and remained with them six years, then went to Sunol, Alameda County, and began stock-raising for himself. He bought a flock of ewes and lambs and in partnership with two nephews continued in the business for three years; the partnership was then dissolved and Mr. Arnaudon ran the business alone for two years. At the end of that period he purchased a ranch near Pleasanton, of 150 acres. This he cultivated, putting forty acres of it into vineyard. This land he later leased out, but still owns the property.

In 1886, Mr. Arnaudon located in Fresno County, starting a hotel at White's Bridge, together with a stocking store, and served as assistant postmaster there. Here he brought his sheep, and ranged them on the plains and stubblefields, 4,000 head or more. When the railroad was built into Mendota, in 1890, he put up the Arnaudon Hotel there and opened a general merchandise store, the first store in the town, and this he ran until 1917.

Some ten years ago Mr. Arnaudon bought his present ranch, first obtaining 160 acres, then an additional 160, making 320 acres in all, and established his sheep business on this ranch. He also owned six sections purchased from the Borland estate, but sold off all but one section which he still retains, situated one mile south of his home ranch, and uses for a stock ranch, has had it fenced and a deep well of 600 feet put in, with water within fifteen feet of the top. The home place he has improved with all modern facilities; a deep well and pumping-plant installed, run by electricity; also three pumping-plants in all on the ranch; which is devoted mostly to raising alfalfa, grain, sheep, cattle and hogs.

The marriage of Mr. Arnaudon united him with Miss Marie Arbios, the ceremony taking place at Mission San Jose, September 24, 1881. His wife was a native of France also, born in Aysus, Basses-Pyrenees, a daughter of

Jean Arbios, who emigrated to California in 1863, was a miner, then a dairyman at Novato, and finally engaged in stock-raising in Sunol. His death occurred in Stockton, in 1917; the mother passed away in 1904, in Pleasanton. The third child in the family, Mrs. Arnaudon was brought up in France until fifteen years of age, when she joined her parents in California, and in Sunol met her future husband. Seven children were born to this pioneer couple: Emma, Mrs. Jury; Lucy, Mrs. Bowie of Fresno; Cora, Mrs. Hallum of Oakland; Adelta, Mrs. Ricou, residing on the home ranch; Marie, Mrs. Smoot of Mendota; Alfred; and Joseph, Jr., assisting his father on the ranch.

One of the oldest settlers of Mendota, Mr. Arnaudon has seen the country grow from desert land to its present thriving condition; from roads where the wagons sank down into the mire so that they had to be pulled out, to the present smooth highways with automobiles skimming over them; from stock land to the present diversified ranching; he was one of the first to pump for irrigation, to set out orchards and vineyards and use the modern methods of agriculture. He was one of the organizers of the first school at Mendota and was trustee for years. He was postmaster of Mendota for many years, then his daughter Lucy took his place, and now Marie, Mrs. Smoot, holds the position. Mr. Arnaudon was a charter member of the Mendota Lodge, the Knights of Pythias, organized February 26, 1894, the only one left living, and is the proud possessor of a jewel given to members for twenty-five years of good standing in the order. He is a member of the California Wool Growers' Association, and with all his business cares has been an active participant in the growth of his section of Fresno County. He was also one of the organizers and is a director of the Growers National Bank of Fresno.

EDSON EMMET BAIRD.—A kind-hearted, liberal and interesting gentleman, who lives a delightful life surrounded by an equally hospitable and pleasant family, is Edson E. Baird, the well-known viticulturist who saw much adventure and a good deal of roughing it before he pitched his tent in the most pleasant corner of Fresno County. He was born near Decorah, Winneshiek County, Iowa, on July 23, 1857, the son of Warren Baird, a native of Ohio who settled in Iowa as a farmer, and who enlisted in the Civil War, as a member of Company A, Twenty-seventh Iowa Infantry. Warren Baird died in the service of his country, at Little Rock, Ark., mourned by his widow who was Martha Scoby before her marriage, and who was born in New York. Left with four small children, she reared the family on the old farm; later she resided awhile in Nebraska and finally died in Oklahoma. Of these children three are still living.

The second eldest and the only child in California, Edson E. received a public school education and worked on various farms until he was eighteen years of age. Then, with his brother, Justin H. Baird, he went to Dallas, Texas, and there found employment on a farm, after which, making his way to Tom Green County, on the Concho River, he homesteaded land and continued in the service of the Government, burning charcoal out of mesquite wood, and cutting hay. Selling out, he removed to Fort Stanton, N. M., where he undertook some Government contracting and also followed farming. It was while in Tom Green County, Texas that he participated, more by necessity than choice, in buffalo hunting. With three companions he hunted the fierce and powerful animals for their meat and hides, the tongues especially being a desirable object, and they also hunted deer and antelope, so that he had many good buffalo and Indian stories to tell. About 1881 he engaged in mining, opening up some prospects and occasionally selling at an advantage; and he was for awhile occupied with the affairs of a small ranch in Missouri.

Near Fort Stanton, N. M., on October 25, 1886, Mr. Baird was married to Mary Cooper, who had been born in Fannin County, Texas, the daughter of James A. and Mary C. (Conrad) Cooper, natives of Kentucky and Texas respectively, and farmer folk who removed to New Mexico. Mr. Cooper was



D B McCall

and is still a cattle and sheep man living at Ancho, N. M., his wife having died when Mary was only three years of age.

Having attended the public schools in Texas, Mr. Baird passed eleven years altogether in New Mexico, mining and farming, and then for fourteen years was a farmer at Pierce City, Mo., where he had a ranch of eighty acres. In time he came to own three times that amount; but selling out, he bought 100 acres in the same vicinity, near Newtonia. When he gave that up, he came west to what has since proven to him the only spot on the globe with superior attractions for a home.

In 1910, then, Mr. Baird reached Fresno, and three weeks later he bought his present ranch of twenty acres in the Gray Colony, where he is a viticulturist of a high order. He made many improvements, grafted the vines himself and set out malaga and Thompson seedless; he planted three acres of peaches and an acre of oranges and by means of a pumping plant, in addition to fine ditch service, he provided amply for the irrigation of his land. When the claims of the California Associated Raisin Company, and the California Peach Growers, Inc., were presented to him, he promptly responded by joining and supporting their excellent work.

Four of Mr. and Mrs. Baird's children are still living: Bertie C. is a viticulturist near Granville; Edson Earl served in the United States Navy, but is now in the oil fields at Coalinga; Pearl is Mrs. Everett Cox of this county; and Cassie is at home. The family belongs to the Independent Holiness Congregation in Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Baird are Prohibitionists, and in other ways also they are active for the advancement of the community and the state.

DALLAS B. McCABE.—An enterprising, progressive ranchman operating according to the latest methods, is Dallas B. McCabe, a native of Milan, Ripley County, Ind., where he was born on April 30, 1873. His father was William Wilson McCabe, who was born in Pennsylvania of Scotch descent and came to Indiana with his mother when he was four years of age. There he grew up amid pioneer surroundings, and when he reached man's estate, he bought a farm, cleared it of timber and otherwise improved it, and eventually became a successful farmer. He died where he had toiled, survived at the old homestead by his widow, who was Miss Margaret Pendergast, a native of Indiana, before her marriage.

The fourth youngest of ten children, Dallas McCabe was brought up on an Indiana farm, and educated in the public schools and at the Versailles Indiana State Normal. After having taught for a term he came to Lake County, Ill., that he might work on a farm forty miles north of Chicago and be convenient to attend the World's Fair during that summer; and this ambition having been satisfied, he decided to push further West. He had seen exhibits of various kinds at the Exhibition, informing him more or less about California, and he determined to investigate for himself and in December, 1893, he arrived in California and located in Fresno.

It will be remembered that that was the year of dull times, and he was nearly broke when he obtained his first employment—that of ranch-hand for William Helm on his grain ranch, now the Colonial Helm Tract. There he worked for eight years, after which he entered the service of the ice company in Fresno, when they were still retailing natural ice, but soon afterwards built their artificial ice plant. He was with the ice company nine years, and during the last two years he was foreman in charge of their delivery system. In the beginning, the company was known as the Union Ice Company, but later it became the Consumers' Ice Company.

While living at Fresno, Mr. McCabe was married on May 25, 1904, to Miss Norma Wood, a native of San Jose, Cal., and the daughter of George W. Wood, who was born in Texas. Grandfather Stirling Wood, however, was born in Kentucky and came to California in 1863, and settled at Raymond, in Madera County, where he resided until his death. George W. Wood

was married in Madera County to Miss Nettie Myers, a native of San Luis Obispo County, and the daughter of David and Clara (Wagner) Myers, both of whom came from Ohio. David Myers crossed the plains in 1849 to the gold fields in California, where he mined for about three years, when he returned East; and in 1859 he brought his family by way of Panama. He became a stockman at Fresno Flats, and there he breathed his last; his widow is still living at San Lorenzo, Cal. After his marriage, George W. Wood resided for a while in San Jose, and then at Raymond, in Madera County; and there he became Justice of the Peace. He and his good wife now reside on the Bullard Tract north of Fresno. There were five children in the family, and among them Mrs. McCabe is the third eldest.

During his service with the ice company, Mr. McCabe bought twenty acres of stubble field in the Colonial Helm Tract, which he improved with a vineyard; and having resigned his position with the company, in 1909, he located on his property. For the last five years he has been with the Earl Fruit Company as foreman of the Glorietta and Melvin packing houses, but is at present the field representative for the company. He is a director in and secretary to the board of directors of the Colonial Helm Ditch Company, filling out his sixth year of that responsibility. He is also a trustee of the Clovis grammar school and has served as road overseer. In national politics, he is a progressive Republican.

One child, William Wilson, has blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. McCabe. The family are members of the Baptist Church in Clovis. Mr. McCabe belongs to the Fresno lodge of the Independent Foresters of America. He made a trip back to his old Eastern home in 1901, and a second trip in 1904, when he went to the World's Fair at St. Louis. A third time Mr. McCabe saw the scenes of his boyhood and some old, familiar faces when, in 1907, he attended the golden wedding of his parents.

CHRIS JENSEN.—A Californian who has made his way by his own unaided efforts, and has become an upbuilder of the community, is Chris Jensen, who came to California in the early nineties. He was born at Vindern, in Jylland, Denmark, on June 20, 1877, the son of Jens Jensen, a farmer who had a fine place in his name and title. He sold out, however, and preceded our subject to America by a year, coming to California and locating in Fresno. He bought a place, improved it and engaged in viticulture and dairying; and in the Fresno Colony where his activity and success had made for him a reputation, he died, at the age of sixty-seven. His good wife had been Marie Christene, and she now resides at Easton in this county, the mother of eight children, six of whom are living, the other two having died aboard ship, when sickness occurred that caused the ship's quarantine. The parents and some of the children sailed for the United States in 1892; and three of the children, who were employed in Denmark, immigrated in 1894.

The third oldest in the family, Chris was brought up on the farm and attended the local school. At the age of sixteen, the lad set out for California, and reached here on May 19, 1894. He first worked in the Fresno Colony at farming, and learned to drive big teams; and during the hard times of the two succeeding dry years he drove a twelve-horse team for fifty cents a day and his board. A year later he went to work on a farm for \$20 a month and his board, and later received a dollar a day, and after that \$30 a month and his board.

In 1897, Mr. Jensen leased a ranch on Fruit Avenue, devoted to the growing of alfalfa, a dairy and a vineyard, and for a year he did fairly well; then he rented another place near Kearney Park, where he raised hay for three years. After that he leased a ranch in the Red Bank district and raised grain, running 640 acres for three years, but the prices were so low that he "only just got by." He next removed to Fresno and for a year engaged in the livery business, but sold out and started in as a dealer in hay. He had his ware-

house on F and Mono Streets and called it the People's Hay Market, and for nine years he made a success of it. He bought his hay in Fresno County, and sold it both wholesale and retail, shipping to Los Angeles, Coalinga and different cities. In 1914, he also rented the Dexter Farm on White's Bridge Road, of 620 acres, which he has operated since. He leveled and checked it, and set it out, partly in alfalfa; and he has raised hay there from the first season he took hold. In 1917, Mr. Jensen sold out his hay business to engage in cattle-raising on the Dexter ranch. He stocked it with beef cattle, and divided the ranch, which is all under irrigation, into different fields for grazing. He has about 250 head. He is feeding cattle, but he is also raising hay and selling it. In Fresno alone he handled from six to seven thousand tons of hay a year. He also raises draft horses of a high quality.

At San Francisco, Mr. Jensen was married to Miss Lizzie Murk, a native of Denmark, and they have had five children: Gerhart, Margaret, Emma, Edward, and William. In national politics, Mr. Jensen is a loyal Democrat, but is non-partisan in local issues; and he is one of the best "boosters" for Fresno County.

JOHN RUDOLF PFISTER.—A successful rancher, following the trend of scientific research and using the methods of up-to-date agriculture, is John Rudolf Pfister, the well known brother-in-law of Messrs. Blattner and Kopp, whose interesting sketches also adorn this volume. He was born at Wangen, in the Canton of Berne, Switzerland, April 17, 1873, and his father was John Pfister who worked as a cigarmaker and as a skilled artisan in a hair factory. He died at the untimely age of thirty-eight years, when his eleventh child was only a year and a half old. His wife, who was Elizabeth Witschi before she became Mrs. Pfister, was a native of the same canton; she was a noble woman, who kept her family together through her own unaided efforts and the use of a single acre of ground that belonged to the town. In this manner she reared the entire family, the oldest being just sixteen when the father was taken away. She lived to see all her children grow up, and peacefully breathed her last at Wangen, in the sixty-eighth year of her age.

John Rudolf was the eighth child and went to school until his ninth year, also receiving religious instruction according to the Zwingli Reformed Church. When his happy school days were over, he entered a rope factory at Wangen, where he was employed for three years; and at nineteen he sailed for America, taking passage from Havre, on the Normandie of the French-American line. In February, 1893, he landed in the city of New York, soon coming to California and arriving in Selma in the early part of March. With him were two companions from Wangen, Carl Bohner, now deceased, and Adolph Kopp, and the three went at once to work, as became those who realized that their future must be identified with the land to which they had come.

The first work Mr. Pfister obtained was on the Vietor farm at Fowler, where he was employed for three months at fifteen dollars a month and his board. He was then offered twenty dollars a month to go to Hills, in Fresno County, but his new employer cheated him out of his wages and he was never paid for his hard labor. Times were bad just then, however, and he was soon glad to work for his board. As soon as he was able he made a trip to Oregon in 1894-95, and at Fulton, near Portland, he engaged in gardening. On his return to the south he came to Fowler, Cal., and was a couple of months with his brother, John, after which he worked in a hotel at Winnemucca, Nev., once more he returned to Fowler and to his brother, who furnished him with work for a couple of years. This brother, in 1889, was killed in a runaway accident, and his widow having remarried, already the mother of two children, is Mrs. Mason.

In 1898, Mr. Pfister returned to Europe on a visit, and was gone five months, most of which time he spent in Switzerland. In the late spring he returned to Selma, worked at Hills for the summer, and in the fall made a contract to dry grapes for Ed. Holton, of Wildflower, in Fresno County. The

next spring he rented sixty acres set out to grapes and peaches, and such was his prosperity that, in December of that year, he was married to Miss Emma Pfister, a lady of Wangen, Switzerland, but no relation of his, whom he had known as a girl at home, and who came all the way from Switzerland to Selma to join her lover.

The sixty acres rented by Mr. Pfister were in the Selma district, and were known as the W. H. Say place, four miles northwest of Selma. A lease was taken out for two years, but at the end of that time he rented the Haas place, four miles to the south of the town and near the Franklin school. He had this property for a year, and then he bought a forty-acre ranch, four miles southwest of Selma, which he planted to vines and trees, and which, after it was well improved, he continued to run for three years. The second year he rented another place of eighty acres, and after four years he sold his forty acres at a profit.

All too soon for his ambitious plans, Mrs. Pfister became seriously ill and he made a second visit to Switzerland, taking her along and seeking to recover his wife's health. She had been physically impaired, however, for the past three years, and little by little she sank to her grave. Their four children were with them in Switzerland—Rosalie, Rudolph, Helen, and William—and six weeks after Mrs. Pfister's death her husband returned to Selma with them. In 1911, he bought his present place of forty acres and settled down resolutely to solving anew the problems of life.

At Fresno, Mr. Pfister was married for a second time to Miss Louise Roth, a native of Basiland, Switzerland, who grew up there to be twenty-six years of age, and accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Blattner (elsewhere referred to in this book) and family across the ocean, on their return from a five months' visit to their old home. Three children were the fruit of this second marriage: Emma, Walter Randolph, and Ernest Albert. The family attends the Lutheran Church at Selma.

Few can assert their loyalty as an American with more confidence than Mr. Pfister; he is a member of the Raisin Growers Association, and is a popular member working for the civic ideals of the Red Men at Parlier. Although a staunch Republican, he supported the administration in the World War. When he went back to Switzerland in 1907 he did so on account of his wife's health. He retained his farm implements and household goods, and he never lost his American citizenship. His life and example may well inspire American youth.

ALBERT JENSEN.—An enterprising and progressive man, is Albert Jensen, who owns a well improved stock ranch of seventy acres on the south side of the Elkhorn grade road, one and a half miles east of Burrel—a piece of exceptionally valuable property which he has possessed since he was eighteen years old, and only recently leased to others. His father was the late Henry Jensen, who died at Fresno in 1915 at the age of sixty-seven, and was a native of Copenhagen, Denmark. He had married Melinda Paul, an American and a native of Washington Territory, and in that section of the Northwest they were married. In his early life he had been a sailor, but as he grew to manhood he desired a home free from the dangers of the sea. Consequently, he settled in Washington Territory, and the so-called Palouse country, and became the father of six children.

In 1890, Mr. and Mrs. Jensen moved south to California and the Burrel district, where the father bought two quarter sections of land, upon which he built his home. However, no sooner had he established himself and his family in comfort than an accident, as sad as tragic, occurred to mar the happiness of his life. Mrs. Jensen's clothes caught fire while she was working around a sheet-iron stove, and so severely was she burned that she died soon after. Thereupon the bereaved father moved to Los Angeles with his six children, but fate continued to cast a shadow over his path and the youngest two of the family died with diphtheria. There were then left the



G. P. Cole

sons, George, Harvey, Albert, and Charles. Returning to the Burrel district, the father continued to farm, assisted by his boys, then growing to young manhood. He was a man of more than ordinary attainment, and was a profound Bible student. He had an inquiring and acquiring mind, and never rested until he had found, if possible, a solution for every problem. He was not only scholarly, but he wrote poetry as well as prose.

Born on September 29, 1885, Albert's earliest recollections are of Fresno County. He attended school in the Elkhorn district, and was brought up to farming. When eighteen years of age he bought the land already referred to in partnership with his older brother Harvey, and together they purchased 142½ acres one and a half miles east of Burrel. Upon dividing the property Albert took the seventy acres fronting on the Elkhorn grade road and Harvey took the seventy-two and a half acres immediately south of it. Inasmuch as he came in on the draft calling for men from eighteen to forty-five, in the fall of 1918, he leased his land for a term of five years, and he has since rented an eighty-acre vineyard at Bowles. On March 11, 1918, Mr. Jensen was married to Miss Gladys Hopkins of Fresno. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

WILLIAM P. COLE.—An identification of more than twenty-five years with the oil industry has given William P. Cole, the well known oil operator of the New San Francisco lease, at Coalinga, Cal., an extensive and valuable experience in all of the varied branches of this important business. He is a Buckeye by birth, born at Circleville, Ohio, August 31, 1878, a son of John L. and Emma (Howard) Cole, the father a native of West Virginia, the mother of Ohio, where she died in 1882. The father was an Ohio farmer who afterwards removed to Topeka, Kans., where he passed away. Mr. and Mrs. John L. Cole were the parents of three children, William P. being the only one now living.

When his mother died William P. Cole was but four years of age and was reared by his Grandmother Cole, at Cassville, W. Va., Monongalia County, where he attended school awhile, but owing to circumstances he was obliged to go to work at the early age of twelve years. At first he worked on a farm and when he was fourteen William secured work in the oilfield with the South Penn Oil Company, the production department of the Standard Oil Company. Here he helped to build tanks and after six months of service began to dress tools and later he engaged in drilling for oil. He continued with the company until 1904 when he took a western trip, spending one summer at Seattle, Wash. It was in 1905 that Mr. Cole made his advent into the Coalinga oilfield as foreman with the California Oilfields Limited, which concern is now known as the Shell Company of California. Later he went with the Associated Transportation Company where he took charge of Station No. 3 for twenty-two months, afterwards going to Turlock, Cal., where he engaged in the real estate business for six months and then returned to Coalinga. For two and a half years after his return to Coalinga he was foreman for the K. T. & O. Company on Sec. 13. Mr. Cole was continually gaining much valuable experience by his many changes, which fitted him for greater responsibilities. For ten months he filled the post of superintendent for the Arizona Petroleum Company, after which he returned to the K. T. & O. Company as foreman. January 1, 1913, Mr. Cole became the superintendent of the New San Francisco Oil Company, which responsible position he efficiently filled until April, 1918, when he personally leased the property and is now operating it and acting as a director of the oil company.

April 1, 1919, Mr. Cole negotiated a sale of the New San Francisco Oil Company, as well as selling his own lease at a good profit, and on May 16, 1919, he bought a one-half interest in the Pleasant Valley Motor Company and was elected president of the company and he has since given his time to the business. They now occupy a new garage on E Street near Fifth where they have a concrete garage with modern machine shop and repair

department. They have the agency for the Marmon, Jordan, Hudson, Essex, Nash and Hupmobile, and have a fine display room. He is still handling oil prospects and leases.

Mr. Cole is an enterprising, successful man, possessing clear judgment, keen sagacity and executive force, qualities that have proved valuable to him in his business career. Forced by circumstances to make his own way in the world from a small boy, his successful career, which has been won in the face of great obstacles, is worthy of emulation. As an evidence of Mr. Cole's ambition to gain a practical education and thus fit himself better for the business world, we mention that in his spare time he took a correspondence course with the Bryant & Stratton Business College, of Buffalo, N. Y., and a course in steam and electrical engineering with the International Correspondence School of Scranton, Pa., and is now pursuing a course in law, with the La Salle Extension University of Chicago.

William P. Cole was united in marriage on August 29, 1900, with Miss Bertha E. Compton, a native of New York state, the ceremony being solemnized in Cassville, W. Va., and they have two sons: George, a graduate of the Coalinga Union High, Class of 1919, with not only the highest honors of his class, but the highest honors of any graduate; and Paul, attending Coalinga High School.

Fraternally, Mr. Cole is a member of the Knights of Pythias and D. O. O. K., and the Modern Woodmen of America, and has served as a member of the board of trustees of Alpha school district, of which he is the acting clerk.

MRS. MARY OLIVER.—A native daughter of exceptional foresight and business ability, as shown in her ranching and dairying operations, is Mrs. Mary Oliver, who resides on Rolinda Avenue, north of McKinley, and as a loyal American, always striving to better the world, is active in Red Cross and other patriotic work. She was born at Santa Barbara, the daughter of Frank Alves who was a sailor. Having served on a whaler and experienced many stirring adventures, he landed at San Francisco about the late sixties, and remained in California. Mining in Siskiyou County next attracted him, but later he went to Santa Barbara County, where he was mate of a coasting vessel for some years. After that he was manager of the Gorham Lumber Yard, and then manager also for the Pierce Lumber concern. While in the service of the latter he died. Mrs. Alves was Mary Ann Armas before her marriage, and she lives at the old home in Santa Barbara.

The fourth eldest of seven children, Mary was brought up at picturesque and historic Santa Barbara, and educated at St. Vincent's Convent. She first saw the light on November 1, 1875; and on November 26, 1891, she was married to William Oliver, who came to Ventura County when he was a lad of seventeen years. Being experienced in farming, he took up a homestead near Fillmore, Santa Barbara County, and he also leased other land, 500 acres in all, and his crops included beets, beans and grain. He first rented acreage of Schiappa Pietra for fourteen years, and then the Thomas Bard place for seven years.

In September, 1912, Mr. Oliver sold out and located in Fresno County, where he bought the ranch of forty-five acres at Barstow, in the Roosevelt district, that was to become known through his name. He raised alfalfa, and set out eight acres of Thompson seedless grapes, and equipped a dairy, now having twenty-five fine cows, but on January 2, 1916, he died, acknowledged by his competitors a man of unusual capability, and esteemed by his fellow citizens for those virtues that make a man of value to the state, local society and to his home. They had already erected a handsome residence, and since Mr. Oliver's death, Mrs. Oliver has managed the ranch. She has further fitted out the dairy, planted alfalfa and set out eight acres of vineyard. She is active in the California Associated Raisin Company, giving it her interest and support, and enjoying its benefits.

Eight children made the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver an undeniable blessing: Rose is now Mrs. Menezes, and resides in the American Colony, in Fresno County; Mary is at home; Frances, a graduate of Heald's Business College, is a bookkeeper at Fresno; Henry is farming in Ventura County; Charles attends the high school and also assists his mother; and Alvin, Arthur, and Rita are at home. All have contributed in some way to advancing war-work; and Mrs. Oliver is a member of the Roosevelt Auxiliary to the Fresno Chapter of the Red Cross.

WILLIAM S. HARE.—A broad-minded, liberal-hearted man, and one with a good record, who has worked his way diligently from the bottom of the ladder, is William S. Hare, the chief engineer at the Mendota Pumping Station, in charge of important interests of the Standard Oil Company. He first came to California in 1899, but three years passed before he located here.

He was born at Morgantown, W. Va., on April 8, 1864, the son of Robinson Hare, a native of Pennsylvania. The father was a farmer in West Virginia, and served in the Home Guards during the Civil War, and in that state he died. His wife was Nancy Fleming before her marriage and she was born in Monongalia County, then a part of Virginia, but now in West Virginia. She became the mother of seven children, among whom William S. is the third oldest.

He was brought up on a farm in Monongalia County, attended the public schools of his district, and finished off at the Morgantown Academy. Having been granted, at the age of twenty, a teachers' certificate, he taught school in West Virginia until the spring of 1893, when he came to Clifton, Washington County, Kans., and taught school during the winter term. Then he went to Oregon in the fall of 1894, and at Corvallis was engaged at farming. Five years later he came south to McCloud, where he took up lumbering; and returning to Oregon, he was employed by the well-known firm, the Curtis Lumber Company. He was at Mill City two years as shipping-clerk, and then he went back to McCloud, and was employed in the saw-mills as a log-scaler.

In 1906, Mr. Hare removed to Vernalis Station, Cal., on the pipe-line of the Standard Oil Company, and there he began as third fireman. He studied and worked hard, and then and there commenced to lay the foundation for his enviable knowledge in engineering. He served at different stations until, in May, 1911, he came to the Mendota Pumping Station as the engineer; and excepting one year, when he was at Rio Bravo, still in the Standard's service, he has been at Mendota ever since, and now he is chief engineer.

While at Laurel Point, in West Virginia, in 1888, Mr. Hare was married to Miss Jane Brock, a native of Pennsylvania, by whom he had one child, Gail, now Mrs. Jack Allen, a resident of Portland, Ore. Mr. Hare is an Independent in politics, and is, at all times, first of all, an American.

EDWARD LINDMAN.—A young man who fits in with the active, progressive spirit that has made Kingsburg one of the best cities in southern Fresno County, is Edward Lindman, the well-known concrete pipe manufacturer, who passed from swinging the pick and shovel to the front place he has forged for himself as proprietor of one of the important enterprises of the town. He began in a modest way with a single helper, and now he employs twelve men or more.

He was born at Mankato, Minn., on July 7, 1893, and spent the first eleven years of his boyhood in Minnesota, when he came west with his parents, brothers and sisters, to California. His father died when he was only three years old; and the mother, Anna Lindman, then married John Asplund, who now has a ranch in Tulare County, near Kingsburg, and became in time, by the two marriages, the mother of nine children. For a year Edward attended school in California and then, when only fifteen, he found work in the cement and concrete works near Ontario, where he thoroughly learned the art of making concrete tiles.

Mr. Lindman came to Kingsburg five years ago and, in a very unassuming manner, opened shop; since then his business has doubled every year until now he manufactures all sizes of pipe from eight to thirty-six inches in diameter, sells tiles and puts in pipe on contract. At first he used hand-tampers; he later installed compressed-air tampers, which have recently been replaced by the most modern machinery which turns out a very superior, trowelled concrete pipe, thereby greatly increasing the quantity and quality of his output, so that during the season of 1919, he put in more than fourteen miles of pipe.

Mr. Lindman has a wonderful record for achievement since he first came to Kingsburg, and what is so pleasing to the community is that, in achieving success for himself, he has built up an enterprise needed by the town. It would be difficult to find anyone who did not wish Ed. Lindman prosperity, and bushels of it.

At Los Angeles, Mr. Lindman was married to Miss Grace Clay of Pomona, and they have one child, Jeanette Louise. Recently he has built a fine bungalow on "Knob Hill," where the family dispenses a hospitality thoroughly Californian.

FRANK LANSE.—Three miles west of Parlier lies the well-improved sixty-acre ranch owned by Frank Lanse, an experienced viticulturist and orchardist. Mr. Lanse is a naturalized German-American, who is thoroughly loyal to the land of his adoption, and justly popular among his friends and neighbors. A native of the Prussian province of Westphalia, he was born at Hoexter, a city of about 8,000 inhabitants, September 3, 1865. His father Henry, was a respected, well-to-do German landowner. His mother was in maidenhood, Bernice Steinemann.

There were seven children in the parental family, of whom Frank (or Franz, the name given him in the Catholic Church at his baptism) is the eldest. The others are: Anton, or Tony, now residing on his father's home place in Germany; Teressa, the wife of Anton Eicholdt, a carpenter at Fresno; Marie, the wife of A. G. Winter, a rancher in the Selma district; Henry, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this work; Berthold, residing in Germany; and Joseph, or Joe, a rancher living about a mile east of Frank's home place. In 1906 the parents journeyed from the old country to California to visit their children, and the mother was taken with pneumonia, dying about Christmas time, 1906, at San Francisco. The father remained in California until 1908, when he returned to Germany.

Young Frank grew up on his father's Westphalian farm of 120 acres, attended the common schools of his native country eight years, and was afterwards a student of agriculture in the Agricultural College at Holzmin-den, Germany, for two years. The first of his family to emigrate to the United States, he took "French leave" of the Fatherland after six months' unwilling military service, never again to return as long as German militarism is in the ascendancy. After an uneventful and pleasant voyage, he landed at New York and spent one day in the metropolis before taking the Southern Pacific System, via New Orleans, for California. He arrived in San Jose, Cal., October 28, 1887, and, aside from his cousin, Albert H. Niggemain of that city, had neither friend nor relative in America. For three years he was employed in the butcher business in San Jose, and afterwards spent two years working in the plastering and cement business.

In 1892 he came to Fresno County, and for three years worked on Egger's 700-acre vineyard and about two sections of grain land, where he rose to the position of foreman. He then rented a ranch at Fowler, and after batching one year was united in marriage with Miss Winter, daughter of Gottlieb and Katherine (Karle) Winter, all natives of Russia. When fifteen years of age Mrs. Lanse had the misfortune to lose her mother who died while her daughter was quite a distance from home. When seventeen years old she came to California from her native country, her father, step-mother, three



Frank Lane and Family.

brothers, two half-sisters and two half-brothers having preceded her and settled on a ranch which they purchased at Del Rey.

In 1900, Mr. Lanse purchased twenty acres of land in Section 22, the nucleus of his home place, fifteen acres of which was planted to vines and peaches, ten acres of it being about equally set to Thompson Seedless and Sultanas, and five acres set to two-year-old peach trees. In 1911 he added to his acreage by the purchase of forty acres in Section 21, lying across the road west of the home place, twenty-eight acres being set to muscats, two acres to Zinfandels, eight acres to peaches and two acres to alfalfa. He is under the Consolidated Ditch Company's canals and can irrigate every foot of his land. However, with characteristic preparedness for every emergency, he has installed a pumping-plant (fifteen-horsepower distillate engine and five-inch centrifugal pump) for use in an exceptional dry spell.

Mr. and Mrs. Lanse have an interesting family of five children: Katherine, or Kate, is the wife of Henry Wirt, a rancher at Del Rey, and the mother of a daughter, Dortha E. Frank is a freshman in the Selma high school, and his father has provided a Chevrolet car for his special use in going to and from school. Joseph L. and Bernice T. are students in the grammar school, and Gertrude M. is the youngest.

Mr. Lanse is a close observer and student of economic conditions in Fresno County, and a strong supporter of the Raisin and Peach Associations. In his party affiliations he is a Democrat and supports the administration loyally. He lives in and belongs to the Fruitvale school district. Mrs. Lanse is a member of the German Lutheran Church at Fresno.

C. O. R. CARLSON.—A tireless worker, and an unusually aggressive man, fortunate in the possession of foresight, insight, and rare executive ability, is C. O. R. Carlson, a Kingsburg Colony pioneer, who, considering the small beginning, has succeeded to an exceptional degree. He owns two fine ranches, has a beautiful new bungalow residence, with tank-house, barn, water, and all conveniences, and, besides having provided an exquisite piano and other beautiful things for his accomplished daughter, he drives an elegant Franklin car. And best of all, whatever Mr. Carlson possesses, he has gained through honest, hard work.

He was born at Gotland, a beautiful island of Sweden in the Baltic Sea, and there he grew up till the middle of his sixteenth year, when he left home and shipped as a common sailor. His father was Carl Gustav Carlson, a farmer of good standing, who was killed in a runaway when sixty-five years of age. His mother, Louisa Regina Verilius before her marriage, came to Kingsburg in 1899 a widow, and here she died, in 1907, seventy-two years old, and beloved by many friends in her native and her adopted countries. The parents had four children, among whom the subject of our sketch was the eldest. Then came Ferdinand who died when he was seventeen years old; Maria Carolina, now Mrs. Lindberg, who resides in Kingsburg; and Hjalmar, a farmer on the old homestead at Gotland.

Carl Oscar Reinhold's education was limited, and stopped with his fifteenth year when he was confirmed in the Lutheran Church. Almost immediately thereafter he went to sea, and he followed the sea for years, sailing for the most part on Swedish vessels, and visiting among others, these countries and ports: Germany—Kiel, Danzig, Rostock and Luebeck; Brazil—Santos; Africa—Port Natal; Australia—Melbourne; West Indies—Porto Rico; Mexico—Vera Cruz; England—Falmouth, Gloucester and Barrow; Wales—Swansea and Cardiff; the United States—New Orleans and New York.

In 1885, Mr. Carlson landed at Galveston, and then and there took "French leave" of his vessel and enlisted in the United States Coast Guard Service and in the Life Saving Service at Galveston. While in this service, he chanced to read of Judge F. D. Rosendahl, who was then promoting the Kingsburg Colony; and entering into correspondence with him, he sent him

\$250 for Lot 56 in the colony, trusting entirely to the Judge's honor and judgment in selecting a good piece of land. This lot comprises the twenty acres upon which Mr. Carlson has so long lived, labored and prospered. Judge Rosendahl gave him a perfectly square deal, and Mr. Carlson has ever since been one of the most aggressive "boosters" of Kingsburg Colony. In addition to his twenty acres here, Mr. Carlson owns an additional forty acres, in full bearing, half a mile north of the Clay School. As a pioneer of the Colony, he was one who helped develop its irrigation.

When Mr. Carlson first came here, he camped out under wagons and underwent many inconveniences in order to get started; and now he lives in a beautiful bungalow built in 1915, with all modern conveniences, and looking back along the years to the day of his birth, December 12, 1858, he thanks his stars that fate eventually steered him to California and Fresno County as safe harbors. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson enjoy their home, the more so because of their talented daughter, Florence, who is a student in Heald's Business College at Fresno.

Although by birth a foreigner, no one could be more intelligently loyal as an American citizen than Mr. Carlson; and when the war brought its great burden to him with a home appeal, he never shirked, but came up to the line with a subscription for the first Liberty Loan amounting to \$500, the total of his subscriptions being \$2,000 of hard-earned money cheerfully placed at Uncle Sam's disposal. "For," says Carl Carlson, "Uncle Sam has got to have the stuff to win the war."

PHILLIP NILMEIER.—Among the very first of the Germans from the Volga River region in Russia who sought a greater opportunity in America and wisely chose Fresno County as the most promising section of California, is Phillip Nilmeier, who was born at Stepnoia, Samara, Russia, on December 7, 1850, the son of George Nilmeier, a farmer of that section. He had married Katie Horch, and they both died where they lived and labored. They had eleven children—nine boys and two girls; and of these three sons came to California. Phillip was the sixth oldest of the family.

He attended the common schools of his land, and grew up to work on the home farm until he was married. Then, in 1872, he chose for his wife Miss Mary Folmer, who was born there and was also familiar with the environment under which he had developed. He continued to farm at the old home until he came out to the New World.

Certain articles in a little booklet setting forth the attractions of Fresno County for working people, induced Mr. Nilmeier to break away from familiar scenes, and on June 19, 1887, he brought his wife and six children to Fresno. The journey was made in safety; but, alas for human foresight! two of the children—George and Phillip—succumbed during the first month of the struggle here. All in all, they had a hard time, for as a stranger, Mr. Nilmeier was one of eight heads of families to come here from Russia at that time.

However, locating here he went to work, making the best use of his surplus capital of sixty dollars; and for six years he was employed in town on the construction of buildings. During this time, he bought a lot and built a house.

He then bought from Mr. Ernst a livery stable and feed yard at the corner of G and Inyo Streets, and there he proved a successful business man. He was so fortunate, in fact, that he continued there until 1901, when he turned the business over to his son, Conrad, who ran it for some years.

He next built a brick building 33x100 feet in size, two stories high, that he leased for a laundry, and a brick garage 50x75 feet in size, which he sold, with the other property, about 1917 to his three sons, and is now occupied by a garage, blacksmith shop and laundry. He has also built and still owns three residences on Mono and E Streets.

Mr. Nilmeier is a member of the German Lutheran Church having served as a trustee for some time. He was, in fact, a member and trustee when the church was built. In national political affairs, Mr. Nilmeier is a Democrat, but when it comes to local issues he knows no partisanship, and votes for the best men and the best measures.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Nilmeier four children came to further honor their good name: Peter, Conrad and Adam, all favorably known as members of the wide-awake firm of Nilmeier Bros.; and Marie, Mrs. Foin, makes her home in Fresno.

DU VAL P. GOLDSMITH.—Interesting representatives of good old Virginia and early New York stock are found in Mr. and Mrs. DuVal P. Goldsmith. Mr. Goldsmith is the operator at the Kings River Station for the San Joaquin Light & Power Company. He was born near Warrenton, Fauquier County, Va., on July 16, 1877, the son of John M. Goldsmith, a native of Essex County in that State. The grandfather, Rev. Jeremiah Goldsmith, was a minister of the Episcopal Church, and was honored with the degree of Doctor of Divinity; he went west as a missionary to Fort Dearborn, now Chicago, when there were only a few families living there. At that place he established a mission, and then went on to Davenport, Iowa, in 1843, and founded there another mission. He also settled there, purchased lots and entered into the great work of building up the city, becoming a very wealthy man. The Goldsmith family is of English descent, and includes Oliver Goldsmith, the English author.

John M. Goldsmith was a graduate of Brown College, in St. Mary's County, Md., and served throughout the Civil War in the Confederate Army. At the outbreak of hostilities he was commissioned captain and later rose to the rank of colonel; he was prominent in the blockade of the Potomac River with his cavalry, and did much, through the use of boats, to prevent provisions from reaching Washington. After the War he resided on his estate in St. Mary's County, and later removed to his estate at Warrenton, Va., where he devoted much time to literary work. He was a writer for the Baltimore Sun, contributing war stories. He died about 1901. The wife of John M. Goldsmith was Mary I. Skinker before her marriage. She was born at Huntly Estate, the home of her father, James Keith Skinker, a splendid farm of about 2,000 acres. The great-grandfather, William K. Skinker, was born at Spring Farm, and was a wealthy landowner, there having been originally about 7,000 acres in the Huntly Estate. Mrs. Goldsmith is still living, and is interested in that property. She was the mother of nine children, among whom the subject of our review is the fourth oldest.

Du Val P. Goldsmith was brought up at Bellefield, an estate his mother owned, and received his education in the public school, finishing at the Polytechnic Institute, where he majored in electricity. He then went to Pittsburgh, Pa., and was in the employ of the Westinghouse Company, being apprenticed as an electrical engineer. Having completed his trade, he was placed in charge of the testing-room, but after five years he resigned, to go to Cincinnati as foreman of the high voltage testing. He continued there for seven years and rounded out a record of twelve years of testing high voltage. It was most dangerous work, and he had many serious accidents, but he always came out safely.

In 1901, Mr. Goldsmith was married near Albany, N. Y., to Miss Zada Russell, a native of Salem in that State, and the daughter of Solomon W. Russell, who was born at Greenwich, near Saratoga, in 1836. Mr. Russell was attending Union College, one of the best educational institutions in the Empire State, when he enlisted for service in the Civil War; he rose to the rank of Major, and was then breveted Major of the United States Army. He was also breveted Lieutenant-Colonel for gallantry before Petersburg. After the

war, he studied law and was admitted to the bar. In 1866, Mr. Russell married Anna A. Dixon of Warrenton, Va., a member of one of the oldest and most prominent families in the Old Dominion. She was a cousin of General Robert E. Lee, and her father, Lucius Dixon, and Robert E. Lee were college mates. Lucius Dixon became a successful and prominent physician, and owned a large estate. On her mother's side, Mrs. Russell was of Welsh descent, a forbeare, William Allison, having settled in Virginia and founded a place called North Wales, Fauquier County.

Solomon W. Russell became a prominent attorney of Salem, N. Y., and was for twenty-five years president of the village of Salem, and was also trustee of Washington College. He was active and prominent in the Grand Army of the Republic, and was State Department Commander of the New York Division. While attending the National Encampment at Boston at the age of eighty-one, he marched in line, took a severe cold, and contracted pneumonia, from which he died on October 18, 1917, his wife having died five years before. He was not only prominent locally, but was known throughout the State and even the nation, and was honored as a man true to every trust and enjoying an enviable reputation. They had a family of six girls and two boys, among whom Solomon W. Russell is City Attorney at Watervliet, N. Y. Mrs. Goldsmith spent much of her early life at Warrenton, Va., with her Grandmother Dixon, and so it happened that she and DuVal Goldsmith were playmates and friends, the friendship eventually resulting in their marriage. Meanwhile, she graduated from the Salem high school.

In 1912, Mr. Goldsmith resigned his position with the Westinghouse people, and in November of that year moved to California. Here he accepted a position as electrical engineer on construction with the South Sierra Power Company, at San Bernardino, and continued with them for four months. When he resigned, in February, 1913, it was to take a similar position with Messrs. Stone & Webster, the well-known contractors on the Big Creek project, continuing with them as foreman for eighteen months until the contract was completed.

In 1915, Mr. Goldsmith came to Fresno County as operator with the San Joaquin Light and Power Company, and now has charge of the Kings River Station, where he resides with his family. He has had a wide experience in electrical engineering, and is well-read and posted. He is a member of the Westinghouse Electrical Club, and of the Allis Chalmers Electrical Corporation Club, of which he was at one time a director.

Mr. and Mrs. Goldsmith are both interested in horticulture and viticulture, and they own twenty acres in Round Mountain District, which they are improving, setting out emperor grapes and Calimyrna figs. They have five children: Zada Russell, Mary De Bellefield, DuVal Pope, Henry Dixon, and James Keith. Mr. Goldsmith was made a Mason in Moneta Lodge, No. 405, F. & A. M., at Los Angeles. Mrs. Goldsmith is a member of the Women's Relief Corps, at Salem, N. Y. The Goldsmith family belongs to and attends the Episcopal Church.

DAVID SANDBERG.—A splendid type of the hardy, industrious and frugal Swedish-American who, despite disadvantages, prospers and becomes successful, is David Sandberg, who had little to begin with save a cheerful, willing disposition and strong hands, and now, by self-denial and hard work, shared in by his noble wife and two excellent sons, owns three good ranches of ten, twenty and eighty acres, and in his more advanced years enjoys many home comforts. For nearly a quarter of a century he toiled to help build one of the gigantic mercantile enterprises of the Middle West, only to find himself broken in health; and even after coming to the Golden State, with its many opportunities, he had to struggle desperately for the first five or six years, until his orchard and vineyard came into bearing. His life-story might well be used as an example of what man may do if man but wills.



J. C. Baker

He was born at Jönköping Len, Sweden, on January 17, 1861, and there attended the public schools. He early began to work on farms, and so continued until he was eighteen; and then he entered the employ of his uncle, August Johansen, who was a miller and owned both a flour and a saw mill, so that David was able to learn both trades. What he learned, he mastered thoroughly; and this experience of doing everything well or not attempting it at all, proved of the greatest benefit when he ventured all beyond the seas.

At the age of twenty-two Mr. Sandberg came to America, and making his way west, settled in Chicago. There he entered the employ of Marshall Field & Company, and for twenty-four years was in their wholesale department, giving his best years to mercantile operations. During that time he was married to Augusta Sunberg, also a native of his home section in Sweden, and their married life has been a happy one. At the end of two decades and a half in Chicago, however, Mr. Sandberg found his health greatly impaired; and having saved about \$4,000, he spent his vacation, in 1906, by coming to California to see for himself what was here. He visited Kingsburg, and decided to make it his permanent home.

On Thanksgiving of the same year, Mr. Sandberg came with his family to Kingsburg, and bought the twenty acres one mile west of Kingsburg where he now lives. He had no income to speak of for the first five years, but he picked grapes and worked in the packing-houses, and did anything honorable to earn a living. In this he was loyally assisted by his wife and their two children: William, who served his country at Waco, Texas, in the aviation department; and Eddie, who did his part in helping to make the farm register its highest yield.

Mr. Sandberg bought the twenty-acre farm twelve years ago; the ten-acre tract five years later; and the eighty acres in Tulare County, three years ago. Some of this valuable land is yielding a rich crop of alfalfa.

Mr. and Mrs. Sandberg are devout members of the Swedish-Baptist Church. Mr. Sandberg is a Republican, but votes for good men—or none. The Sandbergs are interested in the advancement of the community and are always ready to work for Kingsburg.

JAMES EDWARD BAKER.—Although the distinction of being a native son of California does not belong to James E. Baker, who was born in West Virginia, April 21, 1874, he has been a resident of the Golden State since 1876, or for more than forty-three years. His father was Reuben Baker, a native of Pennsylvania, and the Baker family consisted of six children, James being the second youngest. When J. E. Baker was old enough he began working on farms in California. In 1898, he came to Los Angeles where his brother, R. C. Baker, had located the year before. His first experience in the oil field dates from 1898, when he and his brother formed a partnership for contracting oil drilling, for the Rex Oil Company, which business they followed for eighteen months. Afterwards they leased lots and sunk wells, their undertaking proved so very successful that they continued in the producing business in the Los Angeles field until 1900, when they sold their wells.

J. E. Baker moved to Bakersfield where he contracted for drilling wells for the Mount Diablo Oil-Company, in the Kern River field. He still retained his partnership with his brother, R. C. Baker, who went to Coalinga, where he engaged in contracting for drilling oil wells for Westlake & Rummel. Mr. Baker's next venture in the oil business was as a promoter of an oil company formed to prospect for oil at Springvalley, Uinta County, Wyo., where Mr. Baker went, and sunk not only a well, but, as is so frequently the case, his money too. Undaunted by his loss he returned to California, locating at Coalinga, where he followed contracting oil drilling for different oil companies.

In 1902, with others, he leased forty acres on Section 23, and organized the Coalinga Western Oil Company. Here he drilled seven wells, later on

they consolidated with the St. Paul Oil Company as the St. Paul Consolidated. During this time he also contracted to drill oil wells on Section 6, for the Pleasant Valley Farms Company, putting down three wells in about eighteen months time, and, fortunately for them, obtained a producing well in each case. Another undertaking was the leasing of eighty acres, now known as the Coalinga Petroleum Oil Company, where he drilled eight wells, 700 feet deep, and all proved to be producers. By his close observation and his extensive experience in the various oil fields of the state, he has acquired a thorough knowledge of the oil business and in 1904 became superintendent of the Coalinga Petroleum Oil Company. He is one of the original stockholders of this company and is also a director in both the Coalinga Petroleum and the St. Paul Consolidated Oil Companies.

James E. Baker was united in marriage with Lillie M. Vestal, a native of Shasta County, Cal., the ceremony being solemnized at Redding, Cal. This happy union has been blessed with four children: Kern, Ardis, Dale and Helen. Mr. Baker is an enterprising citizen and has made a success in the oil business, an enterprise that demands energy, tact, quickness of decision and keen foresight and is numbered among the oldest oil men in the Coalinga district, being highly esteemed for his integrity and honesty of purpose.

A. P. CARLSON.—Described as being in truth "the salt of the earth," A. P. Carlson has become, with right-living and education as his ideals, a most successful ranchman and an exemplary citizen, who began, like most of his countrymen, with nothing, and in thirty years has brought his forty acres, a mere field of wheat stubble when he came, up to a high state of cultivation. Strictly speaking, he is a resident of Tulare County, but his business center is Kingsburg, and he has hundreds of warm personal friends in Fresno County. He has not reached out for every dollar that he could grasp; but has endeavored rather to lead an honorable life useful to others. If all men were of Mr. Carlson's type, this old, stumbling world would soon take a turn for the better.

He was born in Sweden, on January 22, 1852, the second child in a family of six children, and his boyhood was passed there. His father was John M. Carlson, who married Annie Peterson; and both parents came to America in 1865, when they met the soldiers coming from the Civil War. They stopped in Alton, Ill., for three years and rented a farm there; and in 1868 they came to Iowa. At that time, the country was all prairie, and pioneer experiences were long to be remembered. In 1888, Mr. Carlson, accompanied by his wife and children—a son besides A. P. Carlson, for the only daughter died in Iowa—moved west to California and settled in Kingsburg, where the father died, at the age of eighty. Mrs. Carlson survived and reached her eighty-third year. Both were honored and esteemed by all who knew them.

Fortified by the experience gained to some extent in Boone County, Iowa, A. P. Carlson, who now lives on California Avenue, one-half mile east of the Harrison school, cleared out the stubble on his forty-acre tract and the next spring planted muscats. He has also grubbed up an old peach orchard and planted it to vines and trees.

On March 24, 1880, during his residence in Iowa, Mr. Carlson was married to Miss Kate Johnson, who was also born in Sweden, and by her he has had six children: Annie Ardina resides in Kingsburg, the wife of C. G. Lindquist, a rancher; John William is ranching; Ida C. is a trained nurse at Kingsburg; Willie is also a rancher; Emma is the wife of Percy Nordstrom, who rents a ranch near Kingsburg; and Elmer C. is an attorney at law at Bishop, Inyo County. He graduated from the law school of the University of Michigan, a member of the class of 1916, and formed a partnership as a member of the law firm of Heogan & Carlson, at Bishop. In 1894, Mrs. Carlson died; and on March 10, 1914, Mr. Carlson married Mrs. Hilma

Strand, a widow of Los Angeles, and the mother of two children, Harold and Elmer Strand, both of whom live with her.

Mr. Carlson is a steadfast Democrat and a loyal American citizen, and especially active for the advancement of Central California. This is well shown in the historic fact that he was the prime mover in establishing the Harrison School district, and in erecting the beautiful Harrison school-house which serves a district organized in 1900, partly in Tulare and partly in Fresno County. Mr. Carlson also helped organize the Kingsburg Union High School, which has one of the finest and most unique school structures in the county. He was chairman of the first Board of Trustees, and having served as trustee for seven years, he resigned, reasonably proud of his record, all told, of thirty years on various school boards.

In 1917, Mr. Carlson built a commodious country residence, equipped with modern conveniences, and here he and his family dwell, highly esteemed by all.

HARVEY P. CHANEY.—Every experience in life has its value, and Mr. Chaney has proven to be one who has made the best use of his experiences, and today he is a man of force and originality. He was born in Shawnee, Perry County, Ohio, August 23, 1876. His father, James H. Chaney, was born in Raleigh, N. C., and was a lieutenant in the Third Company, North Carolina Volunteers, in the Civil War. At its close he went to Ohio, where he was married to Miss Lillie A. Porter, who was born in McConnellsville, Ohio, of an old Virginia family. The father engaged in coal mining, sinking shafts and also being superintendent at Athens, Ohio, and then he superintended and prospected in the Hocking Valley, and became superintendent of mines there. He finally gave up coal-mining and engaged in the mercantile business at Linton, Ind. He now resides at Dewar, Okla. Both parents are living, and to them there were born twelve children, five of whom are still living.

Harvey Chaney is the oldest of the children. In his early days he attended the public schools in his native Ohio town, but when he was eighteen he was attracted by the wanderlust, and he started west first in Indiana, then successively to Illinois, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Missouri and into the Indian Territory, mining in the coal fields. He became foreman in the mines, and afterwards entered the employ of The Louisville Construction Company in constructing the water works at Linton, Ind., and while here he became head foreman. In 1903 he came to Los Angeles and engaged as a sheet metal worker with Tallyday Manufacturing Company, now The American Steel Pipe and Tank Company. Here he became general foreman, in charge of work and construction. After a time he left this company to engage in the construction of tanks for the Los Angeles Tank & Steel Company. After this he became connected with the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, and it was here that the opportunity came for him to show his best work. First he was a shipping clerk, and then was section storekeeper at the Division Store in Los Angeles. Other stores were given into his charge, until at one time he was overseer of five different stores. In 1910, Mr. Chaney was transferred to the Coalinga field, as storekeeper for the Kern Trading and Oil Company, now the fuel-oil department of the Southern Pacific Company. At this time the store was under the superintendent, but with Mr. Chaney it was separated. He worked up and established a system of stock books, price books and classified the materials and supplies. In 1911 teaming and trucks were added to his department and he had charge of all of it. Coupled with this, in 1914 Mr. Chaney also looked after 1,200 acres of land which the company farmed.

On May 17, 1917, he resigned to engage in business for himself in second-hand oil-well supplies. In addition to this he handles general machinery and automobiles, and interests himself in horses, buying and selling. He has brought the same kind of business methods into play that characterized his

work for others and he has been very successful in creating and carrying on a large and growing business.

Mr. Chaney was married in Linton, Ind., to Miss Grace Bennie, a native of Clay County, Ind., and a daughter of Cumming M. and Agnes (Davidson) Bennie, born in Kilwinning, Ayrshire, Scotland, and emigrating to Illinois and later to Clay County, Ind. Her father was a coal-miner till he retired; both of her parents are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Chaney have three children: Cumming Maxwell and Joannah in high school, and Harvey. Mr. and Mrs. Chaney are active members of the Coalinga Baptist Church, the latter being superintendent of the Primary Department of the Sunday School. Mr. Chaney is a member of the Red Men and Yeomen, and of the Employees' Mutual Benefit Association of the Southern Pacific.

ANDREW C. BOLANDER.—Fine types of the true Californian of today, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew C. Bolander dispense the old-time Californian hospitality, and they are the parents of an equally attractive family. Mr. Bolander was born in Sweden, near Sunsvall, Helsingland, April 30, 1857, the son of Carl Johan Bolander, a farmer there, who married Catherine Anderson. In 1866, the elder Bolander brought his family of two children, and his wife, to the United States and settled at Moline, Ill., where he remained until 1869, when he migrated to South Dakota and homesteaded 160 acres near Vermillion, Clay County, which he improved; and there both parents passed away.

Andrew C., the elder of the two children, attended the public schools of Illinois and South Dakota; and from a lad learned farming. In 1879 he moved to Leadville, Colo., and there he worked for eighteen months in the mines, after which he returned to his farm. In 1894, however, he sold his holding and removed to El Campo, Wharton County, Texas, where he bought land and resided; but finding that it was a bad adobe country, he sold out and went to Moscow, Idaho, where he engaged in ranching, still later transferring his farming activities to the Palouse country in Washington. So well did he succeed there that he has raised as many as sixty-six bushels of wheat to the acre, but he has been compelled to sell for as low as forty-two cents a bushel.

After a year, Mr. Bolander went back to Dakota, and then to Idaho, and then to near Spokane, Wash., but having, in April, 1904, bought his present ranch without seeing it, he located on it in January, 1908. It was at first twenty acres of raw land; and this he improved, setting out vines, building a residence, and erecting other farm buildings. His house was burned in 1915, but he rebuilt it. Round about, he has some ten acres of peaches and five acres of Thompson seedless vines.

On July 4, 1887, at Dalesburg, S. D., Mr. Bolander was married to Miss Betsy Severson, a native of Newburg, Fillmore County, Minn., and the daughter of Sever Severson Lakevold, who was born in Hallingdal, Norway, on March 14, 1833. Grandfather Sever Lakevold was the owner of the large farm named Lakevold; the son Sever came to Minnesota in 1853, and he dropped the latter part of his name. From Minnesota he moved to the Palouse Valley, Idaho; and he died at Moscow in that state on September 27, 1909. He had married Gure Roe, who was born in Hallingdal, Norway, and came to Minnesota when she was twenty years of age. Here she met and married Mr. Severson, and in 1904, in Idaho, she died. Mrs. Bolander was the oldest of their eight children living. Mr. and Mrs. Bolander have four children: Esther Catherine, Mabel Julia, Agnes Caroline, and Ruth Sophia, all well-educated and cultured. A son, Carl Gotfred, died in infancy.

They attend the Swedish Lutheran Church at Vinland. Mr. Bolander is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and the California Peach Growers, Inc. He is a staunch Republican, but knows no party lines in local projects for the betterment of the community.



Grant A. Adams

GRANT A. ADAMS.—It would be difficult to find a man more emphatically in accord with the true western spirit of progress, or more heartily alive to the opportunities awaiting the industrious and intelligent man of affairs in Fresno County than is Grant A. Adams, who has here built up a far-reaching brick building business, and identified himself with the best undertakings in his district. Born in Livingston County, Ill., November 11, 1867, he was reared and educated there until reaching eighteen years of age, in 1885, when he came West to Los Angeles, Cal., and joined his father, Joseph F. Adams, who was a brick contractor in that city. The father was a member of the board of education in Los Angeles and erected many of the schoolhouses there in early days. Grant A. learned the trade of brick mason under his father, and in 1889 returned to Illinois and followed his trade in the Middle West, operating in Chicago, Springfield, St. Louis and other cities. For four years he was foreman of the Culver Construction Company of Springfield, Ill. One of the big jobs he superintended was the tearing down and rebuilding of the National Lincoln Monument at Springfield.

In 1902 Mr. Adams came to San Francisco, as superintendent of construction for the Standard Oil Company, at Point Richmond. After remaining in this position for a short time, he went to Lincoln, Cal., in the employ of the Gladding & McBean Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of sewer-pipe, brick, and terra cotta work, remaining there one year. At the end of that time he came to Fresno, in 1903, and since that date has been a big factor in the upbuilding of the city and county, doing brick contracting on a large scale. Among the buildings erected by him are the following: The Diamond Street, Longfellow, and C Street schools; the Fulton Hotel; San Joaquin Light and Power Company's block, on the northwest corner of H and Tulare Streets; the Larsen Blacksmith Shop; the Subway Livery Barn; the Jacob Richter Bottling Works; the Richter Block, corner of Blackstone and Belmont Streets; the First Christian Church; the incinerator for the Fresno Brick and Tile Company; and the residences of Fred Dow, on Butter Ave., Frank Rehord, and D. S. Ewing. In Parlier, Porterville, Selma, Madera, and Reedley he has also been active; and built the \$30,-000 school in Modesto and the hospital, school and stores in Turlock.

In the midst of his many business interests Mr. Adams has found time to enter into the fraternal and social life of the community. He is a member of Central Lodge of Odd Fellows; of the Eagles Lodge; and of the B. P. O. Elks. He is a charter member of the Raisin City Gun Club, and of the Fresno Blue Rock Club. An expert shot, he has won medals in many tournaments. He took an active part in the Grand American Handicap at Chicago, in 1917; at the San Jose tournament, in 1916, he made a record of 195 hits out of 200 shots, outshooting the entire list of contestants; and in the San Jose tournament of 1918 he made a record which ranks him as the fifth best amateur trapshooter in the United States, his score being 758 hits out of 800 shots. He has a record of eighty-five straight hits without a miss.

Mr. Adams is the father of five children: Charles, Minnie, Glenn, Viola, and Verne.

REV. H. A. KARTOZIAN.—A man of God whose special mission has been to sow the seed of spiritual faith while tilling the rich and productive Central California soil, and who has also contributed considerably to the still further improvement of life in the Golden State, is the Rev. H. A. Kartozián, the resident pastor of the Armenian Congregational Church at Parlier. He was born in Sivas, near Harpoot, Armenia, October 31, 1876, the son of Abraham Kartozián, who was an expert stonemason and owned a residence in his birthplace. His mother, Antaram Budgian, before her marriage, was born, married and died at Sivas. As he grew up he learned the shoemaker's trade, and he also learned the aesthetic attractions of the Gregorian Church, which he attended until he was seventeen. Then he was converted by American

missionaries, and joined the Evangelical Church and soon after attended the missionary school at Sivas. He later finished the high school course there, and then he went to Marsovan College and Theological School which was maintained by the board of the American Congregational Church.

A member of the Class of '03, Mr. Kartoizian was graduated from Marsovan and was thereupon regularly ordained as a minister of the Congregational Church. He secured the pastorate at Tokat, and preached in Armenia for three years; and during this time he was married in the fall of 1903, to Miss Baidzar Gulian, a native of Samsoun, Armenia. Her father was Markan Gulian, a well-known bookseller, and her mother was Anna Tozlian.

In 1906, Mr. and Mrs. Kartoizian took the momentous step of crossing the wide ocean for America, sailing from Samsoun, on the Black Sea, by way of Constantinople, the Bosphorus, the Marmora Sea, the Dardanelles, the Aegean Sea, the Mediterranean, the Straits of Gibraltar, and thence across the Atlantic; landing at Brooklyn, N. Y., July 19, 1906. They had with them one child, Zabel, at that time a year and a half old, and they stayed in New York for eight months, during which time Mr. Kartoizian was employed in the printing office of the Christian Herald.

By 1907 the Kartoizians had reached Portland, Ore., where they lived for a couple of years; and in 1909 the Rev. Kartoizian removed to Spokane, Wash., where, in 1912, he became pastor of the West Side Congregational Church. The next year he resigned to take up the work of an evangelist, and with the singer, W. A. Elliott, he conducted revival meetings at Rochester, N. Y., for five months, and held evangelical services at various places in the middle states and farther West, until finally, in 1915, he reached the Pacific Coast again.

For a year Mr. Kartoizian's family remained in Los Angeles while he continued to travel as an evangelist; and on July 1, 1916, he received a call to his present pastorate, since which time he has been hard at work in Parlier. He lived in the town itself until November 1, 1917, when he bought the Eberlien improved ranch of forty-three acres, to which he removed. He helps in the running of the ranch, for he is not afraid to roll up his sleeves and engage in manual labor when it is necessary; and he keeps another man steadily employed. There are fourteen acres of peaches, nine acres of muscats, and sixteen acres of Thompson's seedless; while the balance is devoted to yards, buildings, and alfalfa. The irrigation is effected by means of a twelve-horsepower distillate engine and a five-inch John Deere pump. Here the Rev. Kartoizian and his wife live with their five children: Isabel, now fourteen years of age, who graduated from the Parlier grammar school; Annie, two years her junior; Howard and Frank, twins, ten years old; and George, eight years old. Their place was bought by a couple of their parishioners who expended \$5,000 in cash and hold the property in trust for our subject.

Like so many of his ambitious, intelligent and conscientious fellow countrymen, the Reverend Kartoizian is "making good." Both he and his wife are numbered among the most successful reapers in the gospel field.

A. E. CHRISTENSEN.—The advantage of developing in the community where one is well-known is illustrated in the career of A. E. Christensen, the well-trained and broadly-experienced Postmaster at Selma, whose efficient administration of his office—the second postal station of importance in Fresno County—has made him more and more popular. He was born at Dell Rapids, Minnehaha County, S. D., on February 26, 1888, being a son of N. C. and Juliana Christensen, elsewhere sketched in this volume and now living retired on Keith Street in Selma. There were eight sons and daughters in the family, two of whom are deceased. Our subject is the seventh in the order of birth.

When only four years old, A. E. Christensen came with his parents to Selma, and soon after began to attend the public schools, passing on to the Selma Union High School, from which he was graduated with the Class of

'06. Then he went to the University of California at Berkeley for a year, where he pursued a general course in history, mathematics and the sciences, after which he came back to Selma; and here, in 1909, he was married to Miss Lucy E. Sweet, a native of Kansas. Her father was Wilbur M. Sweet, and he married Miss Lucy E. Ranson, who died in Kansas when Mrs. Christensen was only ten years old. When she was fourteen she came to Selma from Kansas with her father and two brothers and two sisters. While residing here at Selma Mr. Sweet was in the employ of the Santa Fe Railway, working from various points along the line of that great system. After years of meritorious service, he met with a sad accident in a fall, on account of which he was taken to the Santa Fe Hospital at Los Angeles; and there, about 1917, he died.

Mr. and Mrs. Christensen have three children: Ranson Neil, John Robert, and Lucy E.—all favorites. The Christensens attend the First Baptist Church of Selma, of which Mr. Christensen is a deacon. He is also a member of the Blue Lodge of Masons at Selma.

For five years after his marriage, Mr. Christensen farmed near Selma, and in 1914 he came into town and entered the Selma Post Office under Walter Staley, the former postmaster. In course of time, he took the civil service examination for second-class postal service; and having passed very creditably, he was commissioned postmaster at Selma, on April 8, 1918, becoming thereby a successor to his chief, Walter Staley. The Selma Post Office has been for sometime an important one in the second class; but especially under Mr. Christensen's able administration, it has come to handle a large volume of business. The rural delivery has also been extended, and never was the city delivery in better shape.

MRS. ELIZABETH HOLE.—One of the oldest settlers of Watts Valley is Mrs. Elizabeth Hole, who was born in Mercer County, Ohio, January 10, 1841, the daughter of Sylvester and Catherine (Stephenson) Tilton, also natives of Mercer County, Ohio, who followed farming there until their deaths. They left two children, twins; the twin brother of Elizabeth was named John Tilton, who served in the Seventy-seventh Ohio Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War, after which he was a farmer in Ohio until his death.

Elizabeth Tilton was left an orphan at three years of age, then she was reared in the home of her aunt, Mrs. Elizabeth Ushel, in Celina, Ohio, obtaining a good education in the public school. She was married in 1861 to John Hole, who was born in Darke County, Ohio, in 1840, and they engaged in general farming in Mercer County until 1864. They removed to Iowa where they again followed husbandry in Fremont County. In 1875 they came to Chico, Butte County, Cal., but soon removed to the Willamette Valley, Oregon, remaining for a period of eighteen months.

In 1877, Mr. Hole brought his family to Watts Valley, Fresno County, and took up a squatter's claim of 160 acres. He had but \$5.00 left and a part of this was spent in the purchase of an axe with which to build his log cabin, and begin clearing and improving his place. He worked out for a time to obtain the necessary funds to care for his family. It was up-hill work for a time, but they succeeded by raising grain and stock. He improved the place well and when the land was surveyed by the government he obtained title to his homestead; he bought 160 acres adjoining, and it made a splendid farm, having about one-half of it plow-land. By irrigating from Watts Creek, he had ten acres in alfalfa. Here he followed the even tenor of his way until his death, September 4, 1915. He was one of the founders of Sycamore school district, and served as a trustee for many years and was highly respected for his worth and integrity. Since he died his son Theo. runs the ranch, thus relieving his mother of much care and worry. She continues to reside on the old home and is the mother of eight living children: Catherine, Mrs. Brandon of Sanger; Alpha, Mrs. Reed, resides near Sanger; Milo, a rancher near Fresno; Sydna, Mrs. Wolfe of Watts Valley; Theo., on the home farm;

Alonzo and Alonis, twins, the former resides in Colusa County, while the latter is Mrs. Welliver and makes her home with her mother; and Rosella, Mrs. Knight, of Fresno.

Theo. is engaged in farming the home ranch to stock and grain, being a natural mechanic he works as a carpenter and builder between seasons. Mrs. Hole is one of the few remaining old-timers in Watts Valley, and is well posted on early history. She is a woman who is highly esteemed.

J. FRANKLIN NISEWANGER.—An energetic and progressive Californian, who contributed to local development and who has the distinction of being a pioneer in his section in testing out the plan of pumping flowing wells of water in order to increase the flow, is J. Franklin Nisewanger, who came to California in 1905. Five years later he bought the first piece of land in this part of Tranquillity, and since then he has seen the town grow by leaps and bounds.

He was born near Macedonia, Pottawattamie County, Iowa, on May 5, 1877, the son of Jacob Nisewanger, a pioneer of that county, who hailed from Illinois. He improved a farm; followed farming and stock-raising; became a well-to-do farmer and died there. He had married Sarah Woods, the ceremony taking place in Illinois, and she also passed away, the mother of eleven children, ten of whom are still living. Among these, J. Franklin, the fourth youngest, is the only one in California.

He was brought up on a farm in Iowa, and there attended the public schools, after which he went to the Diller (Nebraska) high school. Later he studied at and graduated from the Normal school at Fremont, Nebr., pursuing both the normal and commercial courses, and then for four years he engaged in teaching in public schools. Two of these years were spent in Iowa, and two in Nebraska near Fremont.

On November 15, 1903, Mr. Nisewanger married Miss Dora Ross, a native of Harrison County, Iowa; and the ceremony, which took place at Little Sioux, Iowa, was long pleasantly remembered by their many well-wishing friends. Mrs. Nisewanger is the youngest child and daughter of William Ross, an Englishman by birth, and a very prominent farmer of Harrison County, who pioneered that section of the country. He died in Gilroy, Cal., whither he had come to make his home, with his children, being past eighty years of age.

In the course of the next two years, Mr. and Mrs. Nisewanger came to California and located at Dos Palos, where they bought a small ranch; and Mr. Nisewanger also engaged for three years in the harness business, when he learned the trade under a man he hired. Then he sold out, continued farming and was a rural mail carrier out of Dos Palos for four years. He began with a horse and buggy, and in eighteen months he was using an auto for delivery.

In the meantime, Mr. Nisewanger had become interested in land at Tranquillity, and as has been stated, he was one of the first to buy in this section. He began immediately to make improvements, using his vacations for that purpose; and by 1913 he quit the mail-carrying and located on his ranch. He commenced with forty acres, and built a residence and barns; and was not only thorough in all that he undertook, but he followed up one improvement with another.

Since then, Mr. Nisewanger has bought land adjoining and he now has 127 acres, all of which he has improved, leveled and checked. Eighty acres, under the ditch, are given to alfalfa. He has sunk a well to the depth of 925 feet and there obtained flowing water; he has built a good reservoir, and has the best of irrigation. For some time he was engaged in dairying, but now he rents his dairy and the sixty acres of alfalfa.

He has also embarked in another and very important enterprise—the business of drilling wells, for which he has a partner, A. R. Johnson. They



Carl Langescheid

have built a rotary well-rig, and are successfully drilling artesian wells. The enterprising partners have a good record for having produced results of value and superior to those previously attained, working according to a new and very plausible theory, and there is no doubt of their continued success. They not only haul their rig by auto power, but they run it by the thirty-five horsepower engine. They have already sunk thirty wells of from 750 to 1,100 feet in depth.

Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Nisewanger: Loreen, Carrol, and Arthur. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Nisewanger has served as a trustee of the Tranquillity School district, and in other ways is active as a public-spirited citizen.

CARL LANGESCHEID.—How a foreign war may affect the destiny of an individual is shown in the story of hard work done and success attained by Carl Langescheid, the well-known viticulturist, who came to Fresno County early in the first decade of the twentieth century. He was born near Breckerfeld, in Westphalia, Germany, on December 21, 1872, and is the son of Ludwig Langescheid, a farmer there who owned his own trim farm, and who is still living in the quiet enjoyment of the community's esteem. His mother was Louise Kuekelhaus before her marriage. After years of devotion to her family, she died in Germany in her sixty-seventh year.

Carl was the youngest of the three children, and his schooling and other advantages were not neglected. When he was fourteen, he was apprenticed to a hardware merchant in Muenster, with whom he remained for four years; and later he was engaged at Bielefeld, where he became acquainted with G. Brocks, who interested him in California. He had previously planned to go to South Africa, and for that purpose had studied English; but the Boer War breaking out, he changed his plans, and listened more attentively to the stories, almost fairy-like, of the advantages of the Golden West, and particularly of the Golden State. Wishing on account of his health to get to a milder climate, and desiring in particular outdoor work, Mr. Langescheid at length determined to cross the ocean and the great American continent, and to try his fortune in California. In August, 1903, he came to Fresno and was in the employ of Mr. Brocks until fall; and then he went into the Kutner store, serving for six weeks in the implement department. It did not take long for him to understand American ways, and he made rapid progress.

In the same fall, 1903, Mr. Langescheid bought forty acres on Belmont Avenue, in the Calimyrna Colony, and set it out as a vineyard with muscatel and Malaga grape-vines, completing the work in 1904. Few, if any, vineyards of the kind in that section made a better showing than this, the first venture of Mr. Langescheid as a viticulturist. He ran it for ten years.

In November, 1905, Mr. Langescheid was married. The ceremony occurred at Fresno, and the bride was Miss Lisette Brocks, a sister of Gustaf Brocks. She was a native of Enger, Germany, and made her first trip to Fresno four years before. The Langescheids soon identified themselves with the German Lutheran Church, of which Mr. Langescheid became a trustee, an office that he held for years. He was also president for a year, and secretary.

In April, 1913, Mr. Langescheid sold his property and they made a trip back to Germany and his old home. They had a most enjoyable time, and in October of the same year, parted from the scenes of their boyhood and girlhood with natural regret, and yet with a satisfaction in the thought that they were coming back to California, and to Fresno. Five months later Mr. Langescheid bought his present fine estate, the old Sanborn place, which he has operated ever since. Eight miles east of Fresno he has forty acres in vineyard, with muscat, Emperor and wine grapes, and he also has twelve acres of alfalfa. He has thoroughly improved the place, and has a fine residence. Cooperative in spirit and ready to lend a helping hand to every project cal-

culated to advance the commercial interests of the county, Mr. Langescheid is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

Mr. and Mrs. Langescheid are also keenly interested in anything which tends to improve the neighborhood as a place of desirable residence, and in that respect as in others, do their full duty as citizens, standing by the land of their adoption.

S. BERG.—Among the well-known citizens of Fresno County must be mentioned S. Berg, one of the best-educated of his fellow countrymen, who is owner of a ten-acre ranch two miles south of Parlier. He was born at Ribe, Denmark, on June 21, 1869, the son of Nils Christian Berg, a shoemaker there, and Anna Christine (Christianson) Berg, a native of Schleswig. Of the eight children in the parental family our subject is the eldest.

Brought up in the Danish Lutheran Church, in which he was confirmed, Mr. Berg attended both the common public schools and the Latin high school, and later, at the University of Copenhagen, he took a law course, and was admitted to the practice of law. The legal field, however, attracted him but for a short time; and having learned bookkeeping before he went to the university, he became a bookkeeper at the bank at Ribe.

On November 23, 1903, Mr. Berg was married to Julia Kirstine Petersen of Gørding, Denmark, the daughter of Peter Hansen and Karen Christianson who owned a good-sized farm. Mr. Hansen was a breeder of fancy horses and cattle and took several premiums for his exhibits. The parents had eleven children, and of these five girls and two boys are still living. One of the sons is Hans Christian Peterson, the well-known engineer, and to him is due the credit for Mr. and Mrs. Berg coming to America. He was foreman for the bridge-building department of the St. Louis, Minneapolis and Northern Railway, and later he became one of the construction engineers on the Panama Canal. Now he is farming at Hopkins, Minn.

Mr. and Mrs. Berg sailed from Copenhagen, on January 14, 1909, on the steamship C. F. Tietken, and they landed at New York on the 29th of that month. On February 2nd they reached Hopkins, Minn., and for two and a half years Mr. Berg was busy keeping the books for the Minneapolis Threshing Machine Company.

When he first came to California, Mr. Berg rented ranches near Selma; but after some thirty months, he again took up bookkeeping, this time entering the service of the Parlier Winery and the River Bend Gas and Water Company. In each engagement he gave such satisfaction that after another two and a half years he was able to secure a home and an exceptionally well-situated and equipped farm of his own.

Mr. and Mrs. Berg attend the Danish Lutheran Church and participate in its many good works for the bettering of humanity. They are generously responsive to movements for the advancement of the neighborhood, and are especially interested in the public schools.

JOHN OSLUND.—A very estimable man, who has improved a fine farm in the district where he was a pioneer, and has the distinction of being one of the developers of Vinland, is John Oslund, who came to Fresno almost at the beginning of the present eventful century. He was born in Hede, Hjemtland, Sweden, on December 26, 1851, the son of Sven Halvarson, a farmer, who died there, and Ragnhild Halvarson, the mother of two children, who also passed away in that country. John, the younger, is the only one in the United States. He was reared on a farm, during which he attended the public schools, and he early worked at lumbering. He also learned the carpenter's trade. When twenty-one, he spent two years in the Swedish army, joining the infantry; and after additional service in lumbering, he came to the United States, in 1884.

At first Mr. Oslund settled in Grant County, Minn., where he worked as a carpenter and builder; and then he located in Hoffman, where he advanced

to contracting and building. He also bought eighty acres there, and by steady, progressive work made his mark in the community.

In November, 1903, Mr. Oslund came to Fresno County, accompanying the Reverend Nordstrom and others, a small but select company, of whom only three are now left. He bought his place of twenty-five acres on the San Joaquin River, then quite raw land, located on it and at once began improvements. He built a residence, set out a fine orchard and vineyard, and has continued there in prosperous business ever since, raising, among other superior fruit, Muir, Lovell and Elberta peaches. He also grows good crops of alfalfa. He is a member and stockholder in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

At Hoffman, on July 20, 1889, Mr. Oslund was married to Mary Elfberg, a native of Hjemtland, who came to Grant County in 1882 with her parents, who were early settlers of that section. She is the daughter of John C. Elfberg, a farmer who first brought his family to Red Wing, Goodhue County, and two years later located at Hoffman, where he died. John Elfberg's wife was Karen Larson before her marriage, and she also died in Grant County, the mother of seven children, five of whom grew up. Five came to Minnesota, and Mrs. Oslund is the fourth.

Mr. and Mrs. Oslund have had four children; two died in infancy, and the others are: Josephine Eugenia, the wife of M. A. Trukken of San Francisco and the mother of two children—Marjorie Eugenia and Doris Mariane; and Edgar L., who has been assisting his father in ranching, is now a machinist. Mr. and Mrs. Oslund both helped to organize the Swedish Lutheran Church at Vinland and to build the handsome edifice there, and Mr. Oslund was a member of the first board of trustees; while Mrs. Oslund was Sunday School teacher when the congregation was organized and the services were held in Mr. Nordstrom's home and she was also secretary of the Ladies' Aid Society for ten years. In national politics Mr. Oslund is a Republican, although he supports local measures regardless of party.

ADOLPH KOPP.—A successful rancher, raisin and peach grower, who is also a public-spirited citizen, sympathetic and liberal to a fault, is Adolph Kopp, one of the stockholders in the First National Bank at Parlier. He was born at Wangen, in the Canton of Berne, Switzerland, on July 6, 1873, the son of Jacob and Barbara Kopp, both of whom were born, married, lived and died in Switzerland. His father was a shoemaker, and one of the cleverest in that whole locality; but because of economic conditions the family grew up in stringent circumstances. Two children blessed this worthy couple, Adolph and Alfred, the latter living at San Jose.

Adolph was only fifteen when his father died. As he was the older boy, the brunt of the responsibility of supporting the household fell upon him, and the spring after his father's demise, he left school. His education therefore was limited to about the equivalent of a present-day California grammar-school course. At the age of nineteen he came to America, having for his destination the pleasant town of Selma, reports of which had reached across the wide ocean. There he soon hired himself out as a farm hand. He had no relatives to help him, but he managed to advance and continued thus employed for about five years, during one of which he was busy as an expert horticulturist at the Agricultural Experiment Station, at that time five miles east of Tulare—an experience that proved very valuable. After having worked out for others he began renting, and for four years leased ranch land. Then, in 1902, he bought his present ranch of forty acres. Before that time, also, in partnership with A. Blattner, to whom reference has already been made, he had rented the Miley place of 160 acres, three miles northwest of Parlier.

As soon as he was able to arrange for such an absence, Mr. Kopp made a trip back to Switzerland. He started from California before Christmas, 1902, and returned in the following May. When he came back, however, he

was accompanied by a wife. While visiting his home town, Mr. Kopp was married to Miss Verina Pfister, a sister of Mrs. A. Blattner, whom he had known before he came to America. Now Mr. and Mrs. Kopp have three children: Ida, who is at school; Adolph, Jr., and Harold, the baby.

Mr. Kopp is now renting twenty acres besides farming his own forty acres, making sixty acres that he is keeping well tilled. He is a hard worker who has always attended very carefully to every detail of his business. He employs one man steadily, and in busy seasons he uses eight more; and he works four mules on his place. He has made numerous improvements in his property, and in 1917 started to build a commodious bungalow on his farm, which was completed in 1918. He has recently installed a four-inch centrifugal pump and ten-horsepower distillate engine, which he uses for irrigation. His property is two miles northwest of Parlier, and there he and his good wife enjoy the fruits of honest toil. He has fourteen acres of peaches, thirteen and a half acres of muscats, two and a half acres of Thompson's seedless, two acres of apricots, two acres in the ditch, three and a half acres of alfalfa, and one acre of raw land, while the balance is devoted to yards and buildings.

For many years Mr. Kopp has interested himself in California history and politics, and he is keenly alive to all that has to do with the development of the state and the advancement of his home district. He is a member of the California Raisin Association, and is willing to aid every civic movement, and he aims to vote for principle and for the best man regardless of party. Though not members of the German Lutheran Church at Selma, Mr. Kopp helped to organize the congregation, and the family attend that church, and give it their friendly support.

SIG WINBLAD.—A native son, who has done well through becoming thoroughly posted in viticulture, and is now independent and highly respected, is Sig Winblad, the son of John Winblad, a native of Halmstad, Sweden. As a boy his father was a messenger for the telegraph company; but when he became fourteen he shipped as a sailor and went off to sea. He continued to follow a mariner's life until the time of the Civil War in America, when he enlisted in the United States navy and served until the close of the great struggle. After that he resumed the ventures and adventures of a sailor and went round the Horn to China and the Orient, quitting the sea for good only when he decided to locate in San Francisco. There he married Mathilda Built, a native of Sweden; and after marriage continued for a time to work in a planing mill. Wishing to obtain land, however, he came to Fresno in 1881, bringing with him his family, and located in the Scandinavian Colony, where he bought and improved twenty acres. Later he purchased the present tract of twenty acres, where he made his home. He built a residence and, with the help of his son, Sig, put in a vineyard. After a while he purchased sixteen acres, and still later another twenty acres. Mrs. Winblad passed away in 1885, and Mr. Winblad in 1909, aged sixty-nine. He was widely honored as a member of the G. A. R. and as a school trustee who was conscientious in the discharge of his duty to the community. Both Mr. and Mrs. Winblad were Lutherans. Two children were born of their union: Sig V., the subject of this sketch, and Athena (now Mrs. I. E. Wilson), who resides in Glenn County.

Born at San Francisco on September 1, 1879, Sig Winblad was brought up on a farm six miles east of Fresno, where he attended the public school. After completing his education he entered the Van der Nailen School of Engineering in San Francisco and there prosecuted special studies for a year. Then he accepted a post as draughtsman at the Stockton Iron Works in Stockton, and remained in that position of responsibility for five years, finally having charge of the draughting room. About this time John Winblad, the father, wished to retire and talked of selling what he owned, and so Sig



Sig. Winblad

decided to return home and take care of the place. Accordingly, in 1908 he came back on the ranch. He now owns the original home of thirty-six acres and twenty acres more, half a mile away, which he bought, having in all a vineyard of fifty-six acres. This is set out to Malaga, muscat, Sultana and Zinfandel grapes, the whole forming one of the attractive "show-spots" of Fresno County, and located five and a half miles east of the city. For years Mr. Winblad has been active in support of the California Associated Raisin Company and kindred raisin association movements.

In Merced Mr. Winblad was married to Miss Allein Bitzenberger, a native daughter of Missouri, who had come west to California with her parents; and now three promising children brighten their home—John, Harry and Virginia. As a public-spirited citizen, Mr. Winblad has served as a Republican trustee in the Scandinavian school district for the second term—the same school he attended when a boy—and he is also the clerk of the school board. Formerly he was a member of the Odd Fellows of Fresno.

AUGUST BLATTNER.—Residing on his well improved forty-acre ranch on the Parlier road, equally distant between Selma and Parlier, August Blattner is among the respected citizens of the favored Selma-Parlier section of Fresno County. A native of Switzerland, he was born at Reigoldswil, Bassiland, Switzerland, February 14, 1866, and is the son of Henry and Rosa Blattner, who lived and died in the country of their nativity. The father, a small farmer, mainly engaged as a manufacturer of pure silk ribbons, never attained any great wealth. He and his good wife brought their three children up in the religious tenets of the great Protestant reformer and leader, Zwingli. The youngest of the three is August, the subject of this sketch.

Leaving his home in Switzerland in September, 1886, August Blattner sailed from Havre, France, and landed at New York City October 5, 1886, going thence to Franklin County, Ohio, where he secured work as a farm hand. For five years he was employed in tilling the soil, and at the end of that time, in 1891, came to Fresno County, Cal., where he worked as a ranch laborer for nine years, continuing this employment one year after his marriage to Miss Marie Pfister, December 5, 1899.

In 1900, Mr. Blattner went into business for himself, renting the Miley place of 160 acres, and in 1903 purchased his first piece of land, consisting of sixty acres, twenty acres of which is included in his home place. Some time afterward he sold forty acres of the original sixty and later bought twenty acres across the road, just south of his residence. In 1916 he purchased a second ranch of 160 acres which lies northwest of Sanger and twelve miles north of his home place. This is also highly improved and set to raisins and peaches. The two ranches are at present operated by tenants. A very attractive feature about his home place is a cement fence of beautiful symmetry and striking appearance, enclosing the front yard. Among other improvements on the place are a fine barn and other necessary outbuildings, including comfortable, well-built tenant-houses.

In 1917, Mr. Blattner rebuilt the house on the home place, transforming it into a modern country residence, and Mrs. Blattner, a devoted wife and mother, is distinguished for her success as a home-maker. She was born at Wangen, a city of about three thousand inhabitants in the Canton of Berne, Switzerland, and is a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Witche) Pfister. The father worked at various occupations, mainly that of cigarmaker, at Wangen. He died in his native country at the age of forty-two years. Her mother is sixty-seven years old. Mrs. Blattner, as a young woman, came to Fresno accompanied by her brother, John Pfister, who became a rancher and died, leaving two children. She has two brothers and two sisters living in Fresno County, namely: Gottfried, her older brother, is single; Louisa is the wife of Emil Dick, the owner of a forty-acre ranch one mile west of the Blattner ranch; and Rudolph Pfister owns forty acres two and one-half miles north-

east of the Blattner home; and Verena is the wife of Adolph Kopp, the owner of a forty-acre ranch in the Parlier district.

Mr. and Mrs. Blattner are the parents of one child, a daughter, Martha M., who is a senior in the Selma high school. In 1911 the family made an extended visit to Europe, visiting the parents' former homes in Switzerland.

In his party affiliations Mr. Blattner is a Republican. He loyally supported the Administration during the stress of the world war with Germany. Although German-Swiss is his native tongue, there is not the slightest suggestion of the pro-German in him or his good wife. Their home life is ideal. They own a fine automobile and live the life of the prosperous, up-to-date Fresno County rancher.

MORTEN MORTENSEN.—A progressive, successful rancher, whose wife and family are equally highly respected, and who is the sort of colonist that Fresno County is glad to welcome, is Morten Mortensen, who came here with some means acquired for the most part in Minnesota, and he is today rated among the well-to-do hard-working agriculturists of Central California. His finely appointed ranch of twenty acres lies three miles southwest of Parlier.

He was born in Jylland, Denmark, on February 15, 1872, the son of Jacob Mortensen, who is still living in Denmark at the age of eighty-one, and was reared on his father's home-farm, from seven to fourteen years of age, attending the public schools, and, in the creed of his parents, he was confirmed in the Lutheran Church. When old enough he served in the Danish army—the experience proving so disagreeable that he resolved to come to America instead. He first secured an honorable discharge, however, and then he set sail, in 1892. He stopped at Perth Amboy, N. J., and there for six years worked in a terra cotta factory; and then, in 1898, he married. The bride was Miss Ella Hansen, a daughter of the land of his boyhood and youth, who had been in America since her fifteenth year. They removed to Staten Island, and there he found employment in the chemical department of a large factory in which dentists' tools were made.

Tiring of indoor labor, however, Mr. Mortensen came west to Dodge County, Minn., and rented 240 acres. He raised grain and live stock, and did so well that in 1909 he sold out and came to California. Mrs. Mortensen had a sister, Mrs. H. P. Hansen, living in Selma, and this helped their decision at that critical stage of their progress.

At first Mr. Mortensen bought ten acres west of the Walnut School-house, and later traded for his present holding, in 1910. These twenty acres he planted as follows: seven acres of peaches (Muir's, Lovell's, cling-stones and nectarines), four acres of malagas, three acres of muscats, two and a half acres of seedless grapes, and half an acre of young peaches, while he has an acre of pasture, an acre of alfalfa and the balance in a dry yard with the necessary buildings. He soon placed the ranch under irrigation, and obtained results that astonished his neighbors. He is a member of the Raisin and Peach growers associations, always ready to advance the interests of the horticulturist and viticulturist.

Mr. and Mrs. Mortensen have four children: Howard works a farm of forty acres west of Fowler; Arthur works another place six miles northeast of Vitoga; Ernest attends school; and so does Gladys. The family attends the Danish Lutheran Church three miles west of Parlier, and Mr. Mortensen belongs to the Danish Brotherhood. All have engaged heartily in Red Cross and similar war work.

Morten Mortensen is the fifth child in a family of six children, and the only one in California. A sister, Mrs. Herman Petersen, resides at Devil's Lake, N. D., and a brother, August, also successful, is in Wisconsin. All the rest are in Denmark. His beloved mother, who was Christine Jacobsen before her marriage, died at the old home in Denmark, twelve years ago.

ALBERT C. LESHER.—An excellent example of what a California boy can do is found in the case of Albert C. Leshner, the efficient, attentive and popular druggist of Fowler, who has the only drug-store in the town. He is well equipped for his responsible service to the community, having a liberal education and a technical knowledge of pharmacy obtained in part by actual work as a young man in a drug-store, and the completion of the regularly prescribed course in pharmacy at what is now the Pharmaceutical Department of the University of California. He came to Fowler immediately after his graduation, foreseeing that Fowler would be one of the important centers.

A native son, and one of the proudest, Mr. Leshner was born at Modesto, on March 29, 1886, the heir of one of Modesto's successful men, John Leshner, who died thirty-one years ago, and who was the go-ahead proprietor of the soda works in that town. Albert's mother was Catherine Block before her marriage, and she is still living, a widow, at Modesto. Four children in the family grew up, the others being: John C. and Will F., of Modesto; and Emma M., the wife of Leonard Dozier of Los Angeles.

Albert grew up in Modesto, and attended the public schools. At seventeen he entered a Modesto drug store, and after two or three years' apprenticeship, he matriculated in the Affiliated Colleges at San Francisco (now a part of the State University) and completed the prescribed course in pharmacy, graduating in the Class of '09. He at once came to Fowler, and has deservedly built up a good trade, and carries a well selected stock of all things to be found in an up-to-date establishment.

Everybody knows "Al" Leshner, and since his marriage to Miss Lucile Sanders, his popularity has increased, and more than ever he is looked to as one of Fowler's substantial business men. Mrs. Leshner is no less a favorite at social affairs, participating with him, especially in the activities of the Elks, of which Al is one of the fully accepted and most acceptable members, having affiliated with the Fresno Lodge.

HENRY LANSE.—The wheel of Fortune, which with a single turn often made bonanza kings out of beggars in the days of the Argonauts, is still turning in the Golden State, but it is no longer the game of chance that it was in those earlier years of the state's history. In these latter years, young men possessing the requisite grit, thrift and continuity of purpose, combined with good business judgment, are the favorites of Fortune, and in such men as Henry Lanse, the owner of a twenty-six-acre ranch two miles west of Parlier, are found the characteristics that eventually receive recognition.

The son of Henry and Bernice Lanse, who lived on their eighty-acre Westphalian farm in Germany, he was born in that country and province, November 1, 1878. He grew up in his native country, remaining there until twenty-three years of age, when he bade farewell to his German friends and relatives and in 1902 sailed from Bremen for New York City, reaching his destination after an uneventful eight-day voyage. He crossed the continent and arrived at Selma, Fresno County, Cal., April 13, 1902, where he joined his brother Frank, who had preceded him to the Pacific slope four years previously, and who was engaged in ranching. He assisted in caring for his brother's twenty-acre ranch and the additional fifty acres of rented land, working for him three or four years.

At the end of that time, in 1906, Mr. Lanse purchased his present ranch property, for which he paid seventy-five dollars per acre, ten acres of which were set to one-year-old peach trees. Otherwise the place was a weed patch, although it had at one time been a wheat field. Ever on the alert to take advantage of the passing moment, after the disastrous earthquake of April, 1906, Mr. Lanse drove his team of horses to San Francisco, where he obtained work hauling sand, brick and dirt out of the cellars of the stricken city, making eight dollars a day.

In 1907 he was married at San Francisco to Miss Elise Sanderman, whom he knew as a girl in Germany. They have the following children: Mary, Elizabeth, and Bernice.

In 1907, Mr. Lanse's parents came to California to visit their children, and his mother was stricken with illness and died fourteen days after reaching San Francisco, aged sixty-seven. The father remained in California about a year and then returned to Germany. The war made it impossible for his sons to hear from him. He was born in 1836, and if living would be eighty-three years old. There were seven children in the parental home: Frank; Anton, who lives in Germany; Therisa, the wife of Tony Icholdt, a carpenter living in Fresno; Mary, wife of August Winter, the owner of an eighty-acre ranch one and one-half miles west of his brother Henry's place; Henry; Bartl, who lives on his father's place in Germany; and Joseph, who is single, and who rents the ranch just east across the highway from his brother Henry's ranch.

Mr. Lanse's place is planted to twelve acres of peaches, nine acres of Thompson seedless vines in bearing, and one acre of Thompson seedless vines one year old. Four acres are occupied by the house, barn, yards and pasture. He has purchased water rights and will put in 350 feet of eight-inch cement tile for irrigation purposes. Mr. Lanse, who has been phenomenally successful in ranching, belongs to the Fruit Valley school district.

ALBERT NELSON.—A viticulturist whose experience and exceptional ability have placed him in a position of much responsibility is Albert Nelson, who came to California in the middle nineties. He was born on the island of Oland, in the Baltic, July 11, 1875, the son of Nels P. Nelson, a carpenter and builder. He was the eldest in a family of four, of whom two are still living, the other surviving brother being Carl Nelson, the proprietor of a furniture factory in Sweden.

Mr. Nelson was reared and educated in his native land, attending the public schools there, and remained at home until his thirteenth year. That year he went to sea, shipping before the mast on a sailer engaged in the coasting trade; and when fifteen he embarked on a merchant vessel, the S. S. Stanley, putting out from Bergen. He went to the Black Sea for wheat, returned to England, made a trip to Odessa, and then ran from the north Baltic with lumber for Liverpool. In that busy harbor he left the ship and signed up on the Swedish steamer Colga; and with that vessel he continued until he was nineteen years of age. About this time he decided to come to America. After his arrival in New York he soon came on to San Francisco; and from there he went to Caspar, where he was in the employ of the Caspar Lumber Company for a year. In 1895, he moved to Fresno and entered the service of Smith & Moore, of the Sanger Lumber Company; and in their mill he continued until 1896. He then made a change that led him into an entirely new field; for coming to know Mr. Rice, in the Kutner Colony, he took up work in his vineyard. On leaving him, he became foreman of the St. George Vineyard Company, where he was given entire charge of their extensive ranch, and continued to exercise the responsibility for a decade of years. After that he was foreman for L. R. Rogers, and was engaged in developing the Rogers vineyards on Belmont Avenue for a period of four years. During the season he still has charge of the Rogers Fruit Company's shed at Smithville when, for three or four months of the year, shipments of fruit are made; the output in 1917 consigned from Smithville reached the total of seventy-five cars. Mr. Nelson is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

When Mr. Nelson resigned from the management of the Rogers vineyards, he went into business for himself, and in the spring of 1911 he bought his present place, some twenty acres on Belmont Avenue, eleven miles east of Fresno, which he has developed into one of the finest of up-to-date vine-

yards. The land is set out to Malaga and Emperor grapes in particular, through which he has made for himself an enviable reputation, and he also has a good assortment of wine grapes. In the fall of 1918, Mr. Nelson and J. B. Rogers bought a sixty-acre tract at Redbank, which is in grapes and figs.

Mr. Nelson was married at the Scandinavian Colony in Fresno County to Miss Laura B. Anderson, a native of San Francisco, who was reared not far from Fresno. She is the daughter of Fred Anderson, a pioneer vineyardist, who had a fine tract of forty acres that he considerably improved. He and his wife died there, leaving five children, four of whom grew up, namely: Otto, who is on the west side; Mrs. Emma Coppin, residing in the Scandinavian Colony; Mrs. James Allen, who lives on Blackstone Avenue; and Mrs. Nelson, the subject's wife, a noble-hearted and attractive woman, whose influence for good in the community has long been felt. Four children have blessed their home: Chester, Floyd, Lavern and Maud. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are among the most popular members of the social circles of both the Eagles and the Woodmen of the World. In national politics he is a Republican.

ABRAM F. GLOSSBRENNER.—Not many of the vigorous, enterprising and patriotic pioneers of California can point with pride to such a war-record as that of Abram F. Glossbrenner, or look back with peculiar satisfaction to the rounding out of over three score years of happy married life; for the old soldier's helpmate throughout so many eventful and trying years is still at his side. His father was Jacob Glossbrenner, a native of Pennsylvania and a carpenter and builder, who married in that state Sarah Siler, also a Pennsylvanian. He moved to Ohio and thence to Indiana, where he followed his trade and reared a family of five boys and four girls. The mother died when Abram was seven years old, and the father, anxious to perpetuate his home, took to himself a second wife, by whom he had three children, only one of whom is now living. Abram, the eighth child by the first Mrs. Glossbrenner, is also the only one of her children living.

Having attended the country schools of the districts in which he grew up, Mr. Glossbrenner was married to Miss Nancy A. Kerr at Jeffersonville, Ind., on November 28, 1852, and from Harrison County in that state he enlisted for service in the Civil War. When the terrible conflict had ceased, he went back to Harrison County and worked at his trade and farmed. In 1873, he left the state altogether and went with his family to Texas; and settling at Austin, he carried on a paint shop there for ten years. In the fall of 1882 he went to Mason County in the same state, and bought land and farmed there.

In 1895, Mr. Glossbrenner made still another departure, for he went to New Mexico and engaged in the Angora goat business, assisted by his two sons. Later, they returned to Mason County, and he resumed work at his trade. Eleven years went by, and Mr. Glossbrenner came north to California and Fowler, where two daughters and their husbands were living.

Now this esteemed couple have a modest home on a five-acre tract, located inside of the corporation limits, nicely improved and planted to vines. It is a typical Fowler villa lot, and there they are happy in the enjoyment of perfect health. This happiness is immeasurably increased through their children, eight out of the ten having survived until the present. They are: Barbara Emma, the wife of Wayman Wells, who resides in Fredonia, Texas; Mary E., who is the widow of William Kniveton, who lives with our subject at Fowler; Joachim W., who is married and resides at San Bernardino, Cal.; Carter McClellan, who is married and resides near Phoenix, Ariz.; Lela, who is the wife of P. A. Vance, a well-known rancher at Easton, Cal.; Stella, the wife of D. A. Williams, living at Fowler; Cora, the wife of J. S. Caraker, with her home at Phoenix, Ariz.; and Maud, the widow of W. J. Ward, who lives with her parents.

Mrs. Glossbrenner's full name before her marriage was Nancy Anna Kerr, the daughter of Samuel Kerr, a musician who taught the art of using stringed instruments and the voice. He organized singing schools throughout Tennessee, his native State, and in Indiana, where he was married to Miss Martha Wilson. The Kerrs and Wilsons were both of Scotch-Irish origin, and both families were early settlers near Nashville, Tenn. Mrs. Glossbrenner thus grew up in Indiana and was educated in private schools at Jeffersonville, and, like her husband, she became a consistent Christian. Mr. Glossbrenner, although sticking to the Republican party, has been a life-long apostle of temperance, and for years a member of the Sons of Temperance, the Temple of Honor, the Social Temple and the Temperance Council, and he has never failed to vote for men and principles. He has never partaken of alcohol, never smoked, never chewed, and perhaps these simple virtues of abstinence have had something to do with the fact that on November 28, 1917, Mr. and Mrs. Glossbrenner were able to celebrate their sixty-fifth wedding anniversary.

Mr. Glossbrenner is a Union Veteran of the Civil War, and not long ago the Washington Historical Society made an official inquiry as to his war-record with the result that the historian of the society affixed his seal to the following authentic statement:

CERTIFICATE OF RECORD

To All Whom It May Concern:

Bequeathed to every American is a priceless legacy, preserved to us by the valor of the Boys in Blue.

THIS CERTIFIES that Abraham F. Glossbrenner enlisted February 1, 1864, from Harrison County, Ind., to serve three years or during the war, and was mustered into the United States Service at Indianapolis, Ind., April 4, 1864, as a Sergeant of Captain Frederick Leslie's Company D, Thirteenth Regiment Indiana Volunteer Cavalry, the 131st Regiment of the line, Colonel Gilbert M. L. Johnson, commanding.

The Thirteenth Indiana Cavalry (the 131st Regiment) was the last cavalry organization raised in the State. Recruiting commenced in September, 1863, and continued during the fall and winter of that year, and on April 29, 1864, the organization was completed and the regiment was mustered into the United States service. On April 30 it left Indianapolis, dismounted and with infantry arms and accoutrements, for Nashville, Tenn., then was ordered to Huntsville, Ala., for the purpose of garrisoning that post, and was engaged in skirmishing, and on October 1 held the place against the entire command of the rebel General Buford. On October 16, Companies A, C, D, F, H, and I, under command of Colonel Johnson, proceeded to Louisville, Ky., for the purpose of drawing horses and equipments for the entire command. Upon arrival there, these companies were ordered to Paducah to assist in repelling an attack of General Forrest. These companies then returned to Louisville, where the object of their mission was completed, and the line of march was taken up for Nashville, Tenn., at which point the remaining companies from Huntsville reported to Regimental Headquarters. On November 30, Companies A, C, D, F, H and I, fully mounted and equipped, under command of General Johnson, proceeded to Laverne, under orders from General Thomas to watch the movements of Hood's army, then advancing on Nashville. Under the direction of General Rosseau, these companies participated in the battles of Overall's Creek, Wilkinson's Pike and twelve different skirmishes with the enemy. During the same period, Companies B, E, G, K, L and M, left at Nashville under command of Lieut. Colonel Pepper, participated, dismounted, in the Battle of Nashville, December 15-16, 1864, where the other companies joined them. After effecting an exchange of arms and procuring an entire amount, the regiment was assigned to the Second Brigade, Seventh Division, of the Cavalry Corps of the Military Division of the Mississippi. February 11, 1865, the Thirteenth Cavalry embarked on transports for New Orleans, but disembarked at Vicksburg, under orders of General Canby, to prepare for a raid on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad. These orders being countermanded, the regiment left for its original destination, and arriving at New Orleans, reembarked for Navy Cove, Mobile Bay, where it reported to General Canby and assisted in operations against the forts and defenses of Mobile. After the fall of Mobile, under command of Grierson, the regiment started on April 17, on a raid of some eight hundred miles through Alabama, Georgia and Mississippi, arriving at Columbus, May 22, and from there it proceeded to Macon, Miss., garrisoning that point and taking possession of immense quantities of captured commissary, quartermaster and ordnance stores. The regiment was mustered out at Vicksburg, Miss., November 18, 1865, then proceeded to Indianapolis, Ind., where it was finally discharged.

The said Abram F. Glossbrenner was promoted from Duty Sergeant to Quartermaster Sergeant of Company D, to fill a vacancy caused by the discharge of the Quartermaster. He was first in a brush with Forrest's rebel cavalry near Huntsville, Ala., about September,

1864, and he was in all the engagements and skirmishes of his company. Six companies were ordered to Murfreesboro and six remained at Nashville, Tenn., so that his Company D was in some of the engagements and the six other companies in others. He was in the Battle of Overall's Creek on December 4, 1864, where Captain Leslie of Company D was killed in action; then he was in an engagement with Forrest's men north of Murfreesboro on December 7, 1864, and was in the fall of Mobile, subsequently his regiment was on duty in Mississippi gathering up Government cotton. He belonged to Wilson's Cavalry Corps, and was always at his post of duty, achieving a gallant record for meritorious service and soldierly conduct at all times. He received a certificate of Honorable Discharge at Vicksburg, Miss., November 18, 1865, by reason of G. O. No. 76, Headquarters, Department of Mississippi.

He was born in Utica Township, Ind., April 29, 1831, and was united in marriage to Nancy A. Kerr, at Jeffersonville, Ind., October 28, 1852, and to them were born the following children: Emma, Mary E., Joachim W., Carter McClellan, Lela, Stella, Cora, Effie M., all now living. Two others died in infancy.

He is a member of Atlanta Post No. 92, Department of California and Nevada, Grand Army of the Republic. He served as Adjutant and Commander in P. E. Holcomb Post, Department of Texas, at Mason, Texas. He was a member of the Grange in Texas, and was enumerator of the Twelfth United States Census, Texas District.

Previous to enlisting in the United States Volunteer Army, 1864, he served in the Indiana State Militia, known as the Home Guard, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in Captain Marshall's Company, at Corydon, Ind. Said commission was signed by Governor O. P. Morton, and during this time he was with the Indiana State troops that followed after John Morgan's raiders, from Corydon, Ind., to the State of Ohio.

These facts are thus recorded and preserved for the benefit of this soldier's family and of all those who may be interested.

Compiled from official and authentic sources by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Historical and Benevolent Society.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand and cause to be affixed the seal of the Society.

Done at Washington, D. C., this 22nd day of April, A. D., 1917.

(SEAL)

A. V. HAYES,

No. 76,266.

Historian.

A. W. BEESEMYER.—A successful farmer, enjoying an enviable reputation for his up-to-date methods, and who has installed one of the best pumping plants in the county, is A. W. Beesemyer, a native son born in what is now Hollywood, a delightful suburb of Los Angeles, on December 8, 1882. His father was born in Missouri, and about fifty years ago came to California, the son of a Union Army veteran, who was killed during the Civil War. The father, William Beesemyer, was foreman in Spreckels' sugar factory until he came to Southern California, and then he bought land on the present site of Hollywood. He raised grain and hay, and later sold his property as an addition to Hollywood, most of which was known as the Le Mona Tract. He still owns forty acres there, on which he resides. He had married Sophia Gallwas, a native of Indiana, and of this union, five boys and two girls were born, all of whom are still living.

Brought up in Southern California, A. W. Beesemyer attended the public schools and the Throop Polytechnic in Pasadena, where he pursued a mechanic's course of study. For four years he was superintendent of streets in Hollywood, and had much to do with the beginning of improvements after the town was incorporated, holding the office until Hollywood was annexed to Los Angeles. Then he became a general contractor in Hollywood and Los Angeles, and did all of the Los Angeles Pacific work in his locality. He went to Bakersfield for the same company for three years, and became a general contractor of Southern Pacific work there. Wherever he established himself, he made a record and reputation that was capital itself.

In 1913 he came to Fresno County and bought 240 acres of land, located on it, and improved it by leveling and checking. He installed a pumping-plant, and provided the electric power for it. He sunk two wells, one to the depth of one hundred feet, and the other to twice that depth, which bring water to within fifteen feet of the surface, affording a capacity of 2,000 gallons a minute. His ranch is also under the ditch, so that he has practically perfect irrigation—an evidence in itself of his thoroughness. He set out twenty-five acres in Thompson seedless grapes, and sold that tract; and has

the rest in alfalfa and grain, getting two crops of each a year. After selling more of the land, he still has twenty-five acres, the finest ranch land in the district. He belongs to the California Alfalfa Growers' Association, and is energetic in support of its cooperative endeavors.

Mr. Beesemyer was married in Los Angeles to Miss Franziska Boehncke, a native of Germany, who crossed the ocean to the United States with her parents when she was six years of age, and later came west to California. One child has blessed this union, Artye Dorthy.

The principles of the Republican party have appealed most to Mr. Beesemyer in matters of national politics, and a Republican he has remained through the trying ordeals of the nation. First and foremost, however, he has been and is an American, while in local movements designed to uplift the community, he has known no party distinction, and has always tried to support the best men and the best measures.

JOHN G. CARLSON.—A romantic story, such as has often been told, of the irresistible charm of California, is repeated in the life narrative of John G. Carlson, who drove his team into Fresno County, liked the Valley, then came to Fresno, heard Vinland talked of, went out to see the land there, and was so captivated that he bought 160 acres at \$41 net, and thus became the first to buy in the colony. He had two associates in the transaction, and in October, 1905, they located on the land.

Mr. Carlson was born at Vernamo, Jankoping, Sweden, on April 22, 1857, the son of Carl E. Svenson, a farmer there, who had married Gustava Gummesson, now deceased. They had six children, three girls and three boys; and John is the fourth of the family in the order of birth, and he is the only one in the United States. He remained at home until he was sixteen, working on the home place and attending the public schools, and then he came to Stockholm, where he was employed on a dredger for two years, after which he took up railroad work in North Sweden. After eighteen months, he went home, and in 1880 he crossed the ocean to the United States and went to Joliet, Ill., where he was employed for two years in the steel mills. In 1882 he moved to Red Wing, Minn., where he was employed in the flour mills and learned the miller's trade.

During November, 1880, and while in Joliet, Mr. Carlson had married Miss Anna Sophia Johnson, also a native of Sweden, the daughter of Lars Johan Carlson, a farmer who owned a large farm, and whose worthy helpmate was in maidenhood Gustava Benson, and both are now deceased. Of their family, Mrs. Carlson is the only one in the United States.

In 1887, Mr. Carlson came to San Luis Obispo County and bought a ranch in the Bethel district, near Templeton. He engaged in farming and set out a twenty-acre orchard of prunes, but as he could not sell the fruit, he sold out and leased a grain-ranch, east of Templeton. He had 1,200 acres, and there he raised grain and stock. Again prices were low, a cental of wheat selling for sixty cents, and pork at two one-half cents a pound; and again, in 1905, he sold out.

When Mr. Carlson located at Vinland, he bought his present place of fifty-one acres. Two years before, Mr. Carlson, Oscar Erickson and B. A. Larsen had purchased 160 acres together in this district, and he took this portion when they divided the property. Mr. Carlson's part seemed best adapted to the raising of alfalfa and dairying, although he tried peaches and vines; and having secured twenty acres adjoining, he set out fifty acres to peaches. Since then he has grubbed out twenty-five acres and put in vines, for he has seen Thompson seedless sell as low as one one-quarter cents, and peaches go down to nothing. Recently he has become owner of twenty-seven one-half acres more in the Vinland Colony, and he will put the entire area, some ninety-nine acres, into Thompson seedless grapes, peaches and alfalfa. His fine ranch is under the ditch, and he has also a good pumping-plant for irrigation. He is a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc.,



James Hamilton And Family

and a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and heartily supports such cooperative work, designed to benefit the great mass of husbandmen.

Seven children have brightened the home life of Mr. and Mrs. Carlson: Eſther, who is Mrs. J. S. Reynolds of Fresno; Annie, who is Mrs. W. S. Beatty of Empire and the mother of five children—Stuart, Arnold, Ferdie, Myron and Anna Lorean; Ferdinand, a farmer in Vinland and who married Louise Brown and has one girl, Bernice; and Minnie, Reuben, Alvin and Myrthel, who are at home. The family attends the Swedish Lutheran Church, of which Mr. Carlson was one of the organizers; he has ever since been a trustee, is chairman of the board, has been prominent as a teacher in Sunday School work, and he has served as a delegate to the California Conference. Mrs. Carlson is also very active in church work.

In national politics Mr. Carlson is a Republican, but he is first and foremost an American citizen, who places the welfare of the American community above all party considerations.

JAMES HAMILTON.—Among the later comers to the vicinity of Parlier is James Hamilton. Progressive and energetic, he stands in the forefront among the residents of the Parlier section. He is a man of fine presence, of great executive ability and sound business judgment, and has a most excellent memory.

Mr. Hamilton was born June 24, 1865, in Crawford County, Wis. His father, Henry Hamilton, a native of England, was born five miles from the city of Manchester. His paternal grandfather, Lot Hamilton, was born in England, November 21, 1812, and having the misfortune to lose both his first and second wife by death in the old country, decided to emigrate to America. Accordingly he came to St. Louis, Mo., about two years before his son Henry, a lad of seventeen, emigrated to the New World and settled in Crawford County, Wis. Henry had an only brother, James Hamilton, who settled in Wisconsin and enlisted in the army during the Civil War, dying from illness while in the service. This left Henry the only heir of his father Lot. Henry likewise enlisted from Wisconsin during the Civil conflict, and served one year in the cavalry, being honorably discharged at the close of the war. Before enlisting he was married to Miss Catherine N. Fairfield, a native of Fulton County, Ohio, and daughter of Hugh Fairfield, a Fulton County (Ohio) farmer, who some time after his marriage removed with his family to Prairie du Chien, Wis.

After the war Henry Hamilton returned to Crawford County, where his father soon joined him and continued to make his home with him until the death of the father, January 15, 1905, at the age of ninety-three.

Of the eight children born to Henry Hamilton and his wife, James Hamilton is the eldest. Hugh, the second son, died of pneumonia at Newman, Cal., in June, 1916. He was married but left no children. The third son, Lot, lives on a ranch one-half mile west of his brother James' place. Stephen resides at Courtenay, N. D., where he is a grain and stock farmer. Henry is single and farms his ranch north of Parlier, making his home with his brother, Lot. Anson was killed at the age of nineteen in an accident with a horse hay-fork, while storing hay into a barn in Wisconsin. Mary is the wife of M. F. Foley, a contractor and builder of Los Angeles, Cal. Sylvia also resides in Los Angeles, and is the wife of Robert Felts, an employee of a gas company in that city.

James Hamilton passed the first twenty-seven years of his life in Wisconsin. He grew up on his father's 1,100-acre farm and attended the common schools. At the age of twenty-six he was united in marriage with Miss Vera Posey, a native of Wisconsin and daughter of William N. Posey, a well-to-do farmer of Crawford County, Wis. They are the parents of three children, all born in Lyman County, S. D.: The eldest, Charles, a graduate of Reedley high school, is in Company E, Naval Reserves, on Submarine

Chaser No. 90, now in the White Sea, north of Russia. Clarence trained for the Navy at Mare Island and is on the *Imperator*, the world's largest ship, taken from Germany, being 920½ feet long and of 57,000 tons' displacement. Clyde is twenty years old and employed by the raisin association.

After his marriage, Mr. Hamilton farmed for one year, then removed to South Dakota, settling on a stock range west of Chamberlain, which is on the Missouri River. The combined capital of Mr. Hamilton and his wife at this time was only \$375. He first engaged in the sheep business, but afterwards sold his band of 2,600 sheep and started in the cattle business. He drove hundreds of cattle on the range from the Bad Lands to the Missouri River, and from the Nebraska boundary line on the south to Fort Pierre on the north, and at the round-ups used to ride ten horses in relays, the cattle being scattered over 125 miles on the range. He moved his herds down to the Rosebud Reservation, but the homesteaders came in such numbers that he quit the business, rounding up his cattle in the latter part of 1902.

While living in Lyman County, S. D., he served as coroner of that county for six years, and also served as chairman of the board of county commissioners, which established the various school districts in the county, and transacted all the county's business. In 1902 he removed to Day County, S. D., and joined his brother, Lot, a wheat-farmer, purchasing an undivided one-half interest in 1,600 acres of grain land. From 1902 until 1909 he farmed in partnership with his brother. Being a practical stockman, he was the means of changing to mixed farming, raising both wheat and stock.

In 1907 he was elected and served in the tenth session of the South Dakota legislature at Pierre, as the member from Day County. He proved to be an excellent legislator, as he was thoroughly conversant with South Dakota conditions and needs.

In October, 1908, Mr. Hamilton visited California and purchased his present forty-acre home place. Returning to Day County to close up his business, he rented the California ranch to his brother, Hugh, now deceased, who farmed the ranch during 1909. His brother, Lot, came to California in December, 1908. In 1909, Mr. Hamilton returned to California with \$30,000, earned principally in the cattle business west of the Missouri River. He purchased another ranch of twenty-eight acres a quarter of a mile from his home place, toward Parlier. He has improved the home place by tearing down the old buildings and building a beautiful modern, nine-room bungalow. Nine horses and mules are used on the ranch. Mr. Hamilton is a stockholder and director in the Ross Ditch Company, which furnishes an abundance of water for irrigation. In addition, he has installed a pumping-plant with a twenty-five horsepower engine with which he may irrigate the twenty-eight-acre ranch in case of a prolonged drouth.

Mr. Hamilton helped organize the First National Bank of Parlier, in which he is a principal stockholder, its vice-president, and one of its board of directors. The directors are: C. A. Parlier, James Hamilton, J. W. Lowman, Luther M. Say, and Edwin Ross. Mr. Hamilton is a successful raisin and peach grower, and a member and stockholder in the California Raisin Growers Association. The Big Church claims his membership, and he is an enthusiastic worker for Parlier, where his tact and genial disposition constantly increase the esteem in which he and his estimable family are held, and where they are as justly popular as they were in their South Dakota home.

AUBREY R. JOHNSON.—An enterprising citizen of Fresno County, who is accomplishing much for its development by the sinking of artesian wells, a business which he thoroughly understands and in which he has been very successful, is A. R. Johnson, who resides at Tranquillity. He was born near Halifax, N. S., April 21, 1878, a son of Dunlap and Margaret (Archibald) Johnson. The father was a native of Nova Scotia where he was engaged in farming and lumbering, and died there in 1908; the mother, who is also de-

ceased, was of Scotch descent, her father being William P. Archibald, an early settler of Nova Scotia. Mr. and Mrs. Dunlap Johnson were the parents of seven children, five of whom are living, four boys and one girl.

Aubrey was the second youngest child and is the only one residing in the Golden State. He was reared on a farm in Nova Scotia and after leaving school followed farm work and lumbering, and for a while ran his father's place. In 1902, A. R. Johnson migrated to the United States of America coming to Fresno County, Cal., where he subsequently located at Coalinga and secured the position of foreman of the Consolidated Water Company's plant. After remaining with the water company for four years he resigned to engage in drilling for oil for the United Oil Company, which business he followed for one year, when he went to Tulare as an automobile machinist remaining one year. Having bought forty-five acres of land at Tranquillity in 1913, the following year Mr. Johnson located on the place and began to improve it by leveling and checking the land, which he planted to alfalfa. The ranch is advantageously located on the main ditch, plenty of water being available for irrigating purposes. Mr. Johnson sold his ranch at Tranquillity in August, 1919, at a good profit.

Mr. Johnson is a very wide-awake and enterprising man as is evidenced by the fact that when he realized the need of artesian wells in the vicinity he at once seized the opportunity to engage in the business of drilling wells for water and, with J. F. Nisewanger uses a hydraulic rotary rig for drilling deep wells, and since his entry into the business has been successful in sinking thirty wells, being in partnership with Mr. Nisewanger.

On September 11, 1901, at Truro, Nova Scotia, Aubrey R. Johnson was united in marriage with Maggie M. Corbett, a native of Nova Scotia, and this union has been blessed with two children: Margaret Eileen, and Fred Lawrence. Fraternally, Mr. Johnson is a member of the Foresters, while he and his estimable wife are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at Pacific Grove.

JONAS PETER ALFRED NELSON.—An energetic, industrious, and prosperous rancher, who had an extensive experience as a farmer in Nebraska and Texas before he came to California, and who was happily able to bring with him considerable means, thus assuring a start without handicaps, under the favoring conditions of the Golden State, is Jonas Peter Alfred Nelson, popularly known as Fred Nelson, who was born in Sweden on June 25, 1855, attended the common schools there and was duly confirmed in the Lutheran Church. His father, Nils Larsen, was a farmer and carpenter, who married Maria Helena Johanson. Both parents lived and died in Sweden, the father meeting a violent death through a bolt of lightning. Seven children formed the family, and four grew to maturity: Carl John still lives in Sweden; Christine Sophie is married there and lives on the old home place; the third-born is the subject of our review; and Anna Matilda is now Mrs. Johnson and lives in South Dakota.

Fred was the first one of the family to come to the New World. When twenty-four years of age he left Sweden for Polk County, Nebr., sailing from Gothenburg on April 13, 1880. At Columbus, Nebr., he stepped from the cars into a livery wagon and traveled thirty miles to Osceola. He worked out on a farm for three years in Polk County, Nebr., and in 1883 went to Lancaster County, the same state. Afterward he was engaged in Omaha and Lincoln, trying his hand at both railroading and farm-work.

While at Omaha, Mr. Nelson was married, in 1885, to Miss Anna Swanson; whereupon he took up his residence at Waverly, Nebr. In 1894, he went to Texas, farmed there for nine years, and bought 170 acres. He succeeded measurably, but on account of the boll weevil he sold his Texas farm and in 1903 came to California with his wife and children, of whom he had seven.

Mr. Nelson then went to Kingsburg and, two and a half miles east of that town, bought a ranch, in Tulare County. These twenty acres he improved, so that he is known as an exceptionally able farmer and horticulturist. He sold the block of twenty, however, in 1917, and went onto twenty acres two miles north of Kingsburg, which his son, then in the United States Army, had rented, and which he assumed charge of to help the son out. This son, David, served in France and Belgium, going over the top three times; he was honorably discharged and came home, June, 1919, safe and sound.

Mr. Nelson, as stated, has seven children: Esther Marie is the wife of Arthur W. Nyberg, a line-man for the Kingsburg Telephone Company, who resides at Kingsburg. Mamie Matilda has become the wife of Bertel Swanson, a farmer in Tulare County. Earl E., who was born in Texas, is in the United States Navy at Mare Island. David, above mentioned; Ellen Charlotte, Oscar Joseph, and Josie Annie are at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson are members of the Free Mission Church in Kingsburg, Mr. Nelson being a trustee. He and all his family have deep religious convictions, and have gladly given two of their sons in the service of their country. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson and family are highly respected and have a host of friends at Kingsburg.

F. A. BERRYHILL.—Among the experienced and influential ranchers of Central California must be mentioned F. A. Berryhill, well-known at Fresno, where he laid out a subdivision, and at Dinuba, where he planted a vineyard of eighty acres. Born near Camden, Ouchita County, Ark., on March 12, 1847, the son of Michael W. and Catherine (Broyles) Berryhill, he was taken by his parents to Berry County, Mo., when he was only five years old, and there grew up. His father had been born and reared in Tennessee, while his mother came from Alabama, for Grandfather Berryhill was a Scotchman who had settled in Tennessee. Mr. Berryhill's grandfather fought under General Jackson in the War of 1812, and was one of the soldiers that won the battle at New Orleans behind an entrenchment of cotton-bales; and Mr. F. A. Berryhill's maternal grandfather was a soldier in the Seminole War.

The father of our subject learned the trade of a tanner, and then a carpenter; and for a while owned a small farm in Missouri. F. A. Berryhill as a boy had the companionship of three brothers: Jefferson Davis and Leander Rudolphus, both of whom live in Berry County, Mo.; and Orlando D., who is a raisin grower near Parlier, Fresno County. At sixteen, F. A. Berryhill enlisted in the Confederate Army and carried a musket, although he weighed only one hundred and ten pounds; and he served as a cavalryman for two years, until the close of the war, under the celebrated General Sterling Price, who had won distinction in the Mexican War serving under General Stephen W. Kearny.

At the conclusion of the great contest, Mr. Berryhill returned to his home in Berry County, to join the family circle which once included seven sisters, two of whom are still living—one in Missouri and the other in California. He was the fourth child, although the oldest boy; he attended the excellent public schools of Missouri, and after the war went for another winter term. He remained home to help until he was twenty, and then he went to Neosho, in Newton County, and learned the blacksmith trade, putting in ten years at the forge. Next he bought a shop at Washburn, Mo., and worked in it for six years. At the age of thirty he was married to Miss Druecella Truelove, who was born and reared in Berry County; and when she died, she left a child that survived her only two months.

Mr. Berryhill then ventured into a new field, that of selling goods, and opened a general merchandise store at Washburn. At the end of two years he moved with his stock of goods to Rogers, Benton County, Ark., and there kept a general merchandise store. It was at that place that he so fortunately met his present wife, who was Miss Emma Merritt, the daughter of



Andrew Wulff



Anna M. Wulff

John G. and Mary P. (Young) Merritt, of Kentucky and Tennessee, respectively. Her parents were married in Davis County, Iowa, and that is where Mrs. Berryhill was born and grew up until she was thirteen. Then her parents moved to Kansas, and later to Rogers, Ark., where her father kept the Rogers House.

Failing in business in Arkansas, Mr. and Mrs. Berryhill came to California in 1885 with their one child, and landed at Selma in a sand-storm, with thirty dollars to their credit. They settled on a rented farm of 240 acres three miles northeast of Selma, which belonged to John G. Arrants, the pioneer merchant. He was two years there and then went to Sanger and rented a section which he farmed to grain. Later he bought forty acres and he was at Sanger for sixteen years.

Then Mr. Berryhill went to Dinuba and put eighty acres into vines, and from 1903 to 1911 he cultivated raisins. Selling out, he removed to Madera County, where he farmed for a year and a half; and then he came to the city of Fresno. He traded for thirty acres southwest of Roeding Park, subdivided the same, sold what he could and has only seven lots left.

Now Mr. and Mrs. Berryhill are established comfortably in their ranch-house, on their ranch of 125 acres, west of the Kings River, near Lanare. He bought the place six years ago, and he and his wife moved down in April, 1917. It is river bottom and therefore very rich land, and is situated in one of the finest alfalfa acreages in Fresno County. In their ranching operations they are ably assisted by their sons, one of whom promptly responded for his country's service. Their home is made more attractive by good books and current periodicals.

Mr. and Mrs. Berryhill have three children, all sons. Roy married Miss Mary Bills of Selma, who was born in Missouri; they live in Oakland where Roy is a machinist and works for the Union Iron Works; they have two children—Romaine and Bernadine. Harry Burrell is in partnership with his father; and Guy Wendell was a mechanic in the Aero-Squadron at Kelly Field, San Antonio, Texas; he was honorably discharged and is now at home. Mr. and Mrs. Berryhill are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South; and Mr. Berryhill is a Democrat.

ANDREAS WULF.—A man of sturdy character, an industrious worker and good manager, Andrew Wulf, as he is known by his associates, has been most successful in his ranching operations, and is commended by his many friends as representative of his countrymen and as a developer of the natural resources of Fresno County. His birth took place at Dinkel, Samara, Russia, September 4, 1871, his father, Andrew, being a farmer of that province and there his death occurred; the mother, Marie E. (Gleim) Wulf, still resides there. Of their twelve children, Andrew is the third oldest, and three girls and two boys of the family are now residents of this state, namely, Andreas, of this sketch; Mrs. Mary Siebert of Selma; Peter, residing on Shields Avenue; Mrs. Katie Peterson of Dakota Colony; and Anna Klemm of Rolinda.

Andreas Wulf was reared on the home farm in Russia and while attending the public schools there assisted his father at farming. His marriage occurred there on December 25, 1891, to Miss Anna Busick, born in Samara, and he continued operating the farm until 1899, when he sold out and came to this country. He first located in Lincoln, Nebr., where he was employed in the material yard of the B. and M. Railway. On December 5, 1900, he came to Fresno, and found employment in the olive factory of M. Archibald, and there learned the curing and pickling of olives and the manufacture of the oil, continuing for seven years, the last four of which he was superintendent of the factory, having become an authority in the industry.

In 1907, Mr. Wulf purchased his ranch of twenty acres at Rolinda; he releveled and rechecked the land and resowed it to alfalfa, set out ten acres of Thompson grapes, and two and one-half acres to peaches and apricots; the balance being in alfalfa. He maintained a modern dairy until selling his

cows in 1919, and he is a member and stockholder of the Danish Creamery. He later purchased forty acres one-half mile northwest of Rolinda and is improving it to alfalfa and vineyard; and also bought twenty-five acres on Shields Avenue, three miles north of Rolinda, of which twelve acres are in Thompson seedless, three and one-half acres in apricots, and the balance in alfalfa.

Mr. Wulf is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and is also a stockholder in the California Post Publishing Company. He is a man of broad ideas and a firm believer in the cooperation of ranchers as a means to greater prosperity for the individuals and for the county. He has proven his worth as a citizen and a developer of the county's resources.

Nine children have blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Wulf: Andrew, a rancher on Shields Avenue; John, with the United States Army in France; George; Peter; Mollie; Lydia; Marie Elizabeth; Jacob; and Anne Margaret. The two oldest were born in Russia, while the others are natives of California and Fresno County. The family attends the Congregational Church in Fresno, and Mr. Wulf has been president of the board of trustees for three years, during which time the new church edifice has been erected. In political matters he supports the Republican party.

When Mr. Wulf purchased his various pieces of property, after he had established his home on Whites Bridge Road at Rolinda, they were in their primitive state of weed-patches and sand-hills, but he has developed and improved them, until they are highly productive. He was one of the developers of the Rolinda district and helped open the roads in that section.

JEROME BLAIR.—One who battled hard and long against the odds of limited means, but now has a fine ranch of forty acres in the heart of the Laguna de Tache Grant, is Jerome Blair who, when asked what brought him to Fresno County, answered: "Poverty!" For when he arrived at Riverdale, on Christmas Day, 1900, with his wife and three children, he owned three or four good teams and had a dollar in his pocket.

He was born in Monroe County, Ind., on March 22, 1853, the son of Marion Blair, who was a college-bred man and an oil painter and portrait artist, and a Mexican War veteran. He made several notable portraits, and perhaps his masterpiece was the life-study of Oliver Perry Morton, Indiana's famous war governor of the '60's. During the Civil War he served in the Union Army and made a record as the captain of a company in the Eighty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was for some time on the heels of Morgan and it was his brigade that captured the leader of the notorious Morgan Raids. The portrait of Governor Morton was given chief place at the Indianapolis State Fair, and now adorns the walls of the Congressional Library at Washington. The Blairs are descended from Scotch ancestry, and the same sterling qualities that helped the progenitors to win fame, have made themselves manifest in the life and work of our subject.

Jerome Blair married Miss Sallie Thrasher on November 2, 1872, and on the second day of the following June, he started with his bride for the great Pacific Northwest. They traveled over the Union and Central Pacific railways, and north by steamer via Portland, to Walla Walla, Wash., where they arrived about the middle of July. Mr. Blair, having but little money, went to work in the harvest field. He later homesteaded in Walla Walla County and proved up on 160 acres; he mined in British Columbia; prospected at New Rossland, and ran a boarding house for two years; then he came back to Eastern Washington, and in 1900 he came down to California.

Mrs. Blair was born in Monroe County, Ind., the daughter of Joel and Orlena (Carroll) Thrasher, natives of Virginia and Tennessee respectively. Mrs. Blair has had five children, four of whom are living: Orville died at Walla Walla when he was a year old; Winnie is now the wife of James Williams, a rancher three miles southeast of Riverdale and the mother of two

children—Lloyd, who has a son, James, and Bessie, who has a daughter, Winnie, named for her grandmother; Marion married Miss Minnie Tinkham and is a wheat farmer at Pixley; George, married Nellie Gepford, and resides on the old Blair place, and owns 110 acres of land. Two children, Alma and Orion, bless their home. Myrtle is the wife of L. E. Stine, a rancher, with four children—Daffney, Bernice, Delbert and Glenn. There were eight children in the Thrasher family, only three now living. Those besides Mrs. Blair are James Thrasher, of Maryville, Mo., and Rolla Thrasher, of Colorado Springs, Colo. The family trace their lineage to a signer of the Declaration of Independence—Carroll of Carrollton. The other members of the Thrasher family are deceased:—John Thrasher, was city marshal at Enid, Oklahoma, for eight years; Jason N. Thrasher, was treasurer of Van Buren township, Monroe County, Ind., for four years; Mary became the wife of Judge Campbell, who was a distinguished member of the bar at Maryville for eight years; Catherine became the wife of W. J. Hazelwood of Maryville; and Christia, who died young, was the wife of Edward Worley, a planter in Kentucky.

The first summer that Mr. Blair worked around with his teams in California, while the family were living at Lemoore, he went with his outfit, at harvest time, to Cholam Valley, Monterey County, to haul wheat to Paso Robles, a distance of forty-two miles from the field to the railway. He saw that he could never succeed, so he went to Laton to rent the land where he now lives, and he took a lease of over two hundred acres west of the North Fork School House; two dollars and a half cash, per acre, was required on the rent. He was lucky in meeting Mr. Saunders, of the firm of Nares & Saunders, who accepted a cash payment of five dollars to clinch the transaction, and took his word that he would pay the balance, forty-five dollars, in three weeks. Mr. Saunders personally loaned him the balance of the cash required for the rent, and this he repaid out of the proceeds of the first crops harvested.

Mr. Blair had two sons, both minors, whom he took into partnership with him. He had good horses, and they soon had all their land planted. The season was propitious, and the crops came along fine; so fine that the ranch became a show place, and Nares & Saunders were able to sell a great deal of land to Eastern people that summer, whom they invariably took to look at Jerome Blair's encouraging results. About this time Mr. Blair conceived the project of buying 120 acres on the Laguna from Nares & Saunders; he wanted that area, and the price was thirty-five dollars an acre, but one-fourth was required down. When asked by Mr. Saunders what he had to deposit, he said, "My prospects;" and through the latter's friendship he was again able to buy what he needed. Mr. Saunders personally loaning him the money. In time, all was repaid, and now he raises, besides his main crop of hay, fine Percheron horses and poultry.

CARL O. SABROE.—A successful farmer, horticulturist and viticulturist, who has become well and favorably known, is Carl O. Sabroe, for years an equally successful navigator whose double circumnavigation of the globe has given him no end of entertaining reminiscences. He was born at Aarhus, Jylland, Denmark, on April 18, 1880, the son of Fred T. Sabroe, who was a merchant there. Grandfather Sabroe was in the war of 1864 and fought against Germany. Fred Sabroe died when Carl was a boy of five or six, and his wife, who had been Marie Egens before her marriage, passed away some years ago in Denmark, the mother of eight children, all of whom are still living, three being in the United States. Besides Carl, the youngest of all, there is Mrs. P. E. Ludvigsen of Fresno and Mrs. Walter Ane of the same city.

Reared in Aarhus, Carl completed the courses of the common and high schools there, and at the age of fourteen went to sea, sailing first on the Noach the Fifth to South Africa. After that he took passage on different vessels, mostly between South Africa and Australia, sailing all the time dur-

ing the Boer War. He made two trips around the world and finally came on a vessel to New York City, after which he sailed on the Atlantic Coast for about a year. In 1900 he sailed to San Francisco and engaged in the coasting trade and on runs to the Hawaiian Islands, when he became second mate.

In 1906, however, he resigned to come to Fresno and entered the employ of H. Graff & Company, as clerk. Then he was clerk with the Kutner Company, and while there became interested in farming. He leased a ranch on East and North Avenues and ran a dairy. In 1910, he quit the service of others, to devote all his time to his own affairs.

It was then that he bought the place of forty acres on Shields and Jameston Avenues and located there, building a residence and making other improvements. He leveled and checked the land and put it under the ditch, and he also installed a pumping-plant. He added a pumping-plant for his alfalfa, and set out eleven acres of Thompson seedless grapes, and a peach orchard of four acres, and began also to raise hay.* He joined the California Associated Raisin Company, and from the time of its origin was correspondent of his district; he is a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc.

In San Francisco, Mr. Sabroe taught navigation in Taylor's Nautical Academy, and he himself passed the examination for a master's license, except that his eyes did not stand the test.

At Fresno, Mr. Sabroe was married to Miss Christine M. Anderson, a native of that city, and whose father was L. Anderson, a pioneer of Fresno. Six children have blessed their marriage: Earl; Alice; Edith, who died when three years of age; Charles; Robert; and Willard. Mr. Sabroe belongs to the Danish Brotherhood and the family attends the Danish Lutheran Church.

PETER WULF.—A man who began in a new country without a dollar, and even in debt at the time of his arrival, and who has won success solely through his own industry and thrift, can be justly proud of his achievement. Such a man is Peter Wulf, born in Dinkel, Samara, Russia, September 24, 1877, a son of Andrew and Marie E. (Gleim) Wulf, the father a farmer by occupation. Peter was the ninth child of twelve children in the family, six of whom are living. He was brought up on the home farm and attended the public schools. His marriage, in February, 1898, united him with Miss Louise Christian, also a native of his town, and after his marriage he engaged in farming there.

In 1900 the young couple came to the United States and first settled in Lincoln, Nebr. After working at the latter place four months, they came to Fresno, in August, 1900, and here Mr. Wulf worked on ranches, principally in the vineyards. In 1907 he purchased a ranch of his own, of twenty acres, on Whites Bridge Road, near Rolinda; then, with his brother Andreas, he bought forty acres one-half mile north. They put it into alfalfa, and three years later Mr. Wulf sold out his interest to his brother. In 1911 he bought fifty acres on Shields and Coalinga Avenues, and made all the improvements on the raw land; built his residence and barns; set out a Thompson seedless vineyard, an orchard, and raised alfalfa, and later also engaged in the dairy business; twenty acres are in the vineyard, five acres in apricots, and the balance in alfalfa. Mr. Wulf intends putting the entire acreage into vines, eventually, and he has a splendid ranch, upon which he has made all the improvements. Shields Avenue was not opened past his place, so he made out a petition and secured signers to open the road.

Nine children were born to him and his good wife, of whom six are living, namely: Lizzie, Peter, Andrew, Mary, Mollie, and Henry. Three have passed away, Louise, Lizzie and Andrew. The family attends the Lutheran Church on F Street, Fresno. Mr. Wulf is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. In politics he is a Republican.



Peter Wulff



Louisa Wulff.

LEE W. HEERMAN.—An ambitious young man who prefers the great outdoors is Lee W. Heerman, the youngest son of M. N. and Hulda (Carlson) Heerman, both of whom are natives of Sweden. They were married at Monmouth, Ill., and came to California sixteen years ago, when they located first in Modesto, but having had their attention called to the advantages of Fresno County, they bought their present place of forty acres, which had at that time only a seven-acre orchard. It is six miles south of Selma, and three and a half miles southwest of Kingsburg, and now includes nine acres set out to Muir peaches, fifteen acres to seedless, seven acres to muscats, and two acres planted to alfalfa. The father and mother are still living, retired, at Santa Monica, the parents of four children: Ritz E., the eldest, who is in the employ of the Southern California Edison Electric Company, married Nellie Nelson, and resides at Los Angeles, and they have one child, Merle. Della C., is the wife of E. Ed. Peterson, the assistant cashier of the Kingsburg Bank, and she is the mother of three children: Mae, Effie, and Eva. Anton G., the assistant cashier at the First National Bank at Dinuba, married Miss Billie Hadin.

Lee W. Heerman, the subject of this sketch, was born on July 26, 1894, at York, Nebr., to which state his parents had moved from Illinois. After a while the family took the long journey to California and Modesto. In time, too, Lee reached Kingsburg, where he attended the grammar schools and then, for a couple of years, the Kingsburg High School. He next pursued, for a couple of semesters, a business course in accounting at a leading Los Angeles school, and at the same time studied music and the violin under the famous professor, L. F. Linn.

Preferring the outdoor life of the rancher, Mr. Heerman at first leased his father's ranch of forty acres, with the option of purchasing it, which option he has since exercised by purchasing the ranch, on December 1, 1918. He is young, active and able, and already understands a great deal about horticulture and viticulture, he is making a record for success such as anyone of his years might covet.

Mr. Heerman was married on December 14, 1918, at Kingsburg, to Miss Frances Swanson, a daughter of C. E. Swanson, a rancher two one-half miles from Kingsburg, where he has resided for almost thirty years.

During the troublous times of the world war, Mr. Heerman early made it known where he stood, and that was in the support of his government and country, and in the endorsement of every movement making for the welfare of the nation, the state and the community.

HENRY ECKENRODE.—Although but a young man, Henry Eckenrode has had a wide and varied experience. With his keen sense of obligation to his country and an enthusiasm for what he believed to be just and right he made a most excellent war record, serving with the distinction that is befitting in a son of a prominent pioneer family of western Pennsylvania.

He was born at York, Pa., December 2, 1886. His father and mother, Joseph and Annie (Keffer) Eckenrode, are residents of Steelton, Dauphin County, Pa., where the father is a boilermaker. His maternal grandfather, Andrew Keffer, a member of a pioneer family of Pennsylvania, is sheriff of Adams County, Pa., and resides at McChemestown, Pa.

Of the twelve children of the parental home eleven are living, Henry being the fourth child and the only one of the family in California. Henry attended the common schools of his native state, and learned the baker's trade in his native town of York. Going to Philadelphia he obtained a situation as baker with the Hamburg-American steamship line on the Steamship Barcelona. He landed at Hamburg and from thence came back to New York, afterwards going to Philadelphia, where he enlisted August 10, 1907, in the United States Marine Corps for a period of four years. He trained at the Philadelphia Navy Yard, and on December 4, 1907, left for Hampden Roads, Va.,

where he was reviewed on December 16th, by President Roosevelt, and started on the cruise around the world. Returning to the United States, he landed at San Francisco, in April, 1908, safe and sound, and afterwards went to the Philippine Islands, serving at Cavite two years and going thence to China, where he was stationed at Peking. Returning to San Francisco in 1909, he went to New York and served in the New York Navy Yard. He was honorably discharged August 9, 1911. After receiving his discharge at Philadelphia in 1911 he went to the Panama Canal and took a position on the police force, serving eighteen months under General Goethals. Returning to Seattle he reenlisted in the Marine Corps and went to Nicaragua where he served at Comito, Managua and Bluefields. After serving over two years of his second term of enlistment he was honorably discharged by purchase of his time.

Returning to California in 1917, he became acquainted at Monterey with a fair daughter of one of the pioneer families of the Parlier section, Miss Hannah Petersen, with whom he was united in marriage October 18, 1917. They are the parents of one child, Bernice C. As the Petersen boys are in the army, Mr. Eckenrode rented the twenty-acre Petersen ranch in 1918 and resides at the Petersen home. Strong, active and energetic, he is again adding prestige to his native state by making a name for himself in the Western land where he has taken up his abode.

JOHN DAVIS.—A rancher who has had a very interesting experience while making a success of his life is John Davis, the Welsh-Californian of Tranquillity, who has amassed a comfortable competency and enjoys the esteem and good-will of his fellow-citizens, who like him for his honesty, integrity and liberality. He first came to Tranquillity in 1910; and since then he has been a leader in Fresno County affairs.

He was born in Breconshire, Wales, August 21, 1843, the son of Edward Davis who was born there, became a well-known shoemaker, and died where he had spent the best part of his life. He married Eliza Pritchard, who is also deceased, and by her he had eight children. Only two of these are still living.

John Davis, the fifth oldest child of his parents, was brought up in his native town and received but a limited education in the public schools. When fourteen, he learned the shoemaker's trade under the direction of his father; and next he worked as a journeyman in Wales and England. He thus was able to earn a good and comfortable living before he pushed out into the great world.

When he was twenty-one he came to the United States, landing at New York City and then making his way west to Wisconsin, arriving at Cambria in Columbia County on June 28, 1865. He worked at his trade and established a shoe store; and for seventeen years he continued in the same place. Finding, however, that shoemaking by hand was on the decline, he engaged in the sale of sewing machines and agricultural implements; and in the fall of 1882 made his first trip to South Dakota. There he preempted 160 acres in Edmunds County, and two years later moved to Cautau Hills, in the same state, where he embarked in the cattle business. At the end of two years he homesteaded in McPherson County; and buying more land, he also helped form the partnership of Davis & Morris which conducted the Circle X cattle ranch until 1910. On selling out his interest, he came to California and arrived in Fresno in November, 1910. In February, 1911, he chose Tranquillity as the most promising locality, and here he bought his present place of eighty-six acres. He built a residence and otherwise improved the place, and at the same time associated with him his son-in-law, Maurice H. Hughes. He bought the adjoining seventy-two acres, so that now they have 158 acres in a body, all leveled and checked. About 100 acres are devoted to alfalfa and the balance to grain-raising. Mr. Davis also owns forty acres more which is devoted to grain. He has three sets of buildings on his ranches,

and he rents some forty-seven acres for dairying. On his home place, he also runs a dairy.

In 1871, and in Wisconsin, Mr. Davis was married to Miss Ann H. Jones, who was born at Rome, Oneida County, N. Y., of Welsh parentage, and the daughter of Humphrey Jones, a farmer there. One child, Alma, blessed this union; and she is now the wife of Maurice H. Hughes, a native of Angle-shire, Wales, who came to Racine, Wis., in the beginning of his teens. He homesteaded in South Dakota, and then went in for ranching and stock-raising; and now he is associated with Mr. Davis in ranching and dairying at Tranquillity. Mrs. Hughes was educated at Redfield College in South Dakota, and she has thus been better able to direct the education of her three children, Melvin, John and Lloyd George. Mrs. Davis belongs to the Presbyterian Church.

It is interesting to note that the town of Ipswich, S. D., was laid out in part by Mr. Davis and built on his land. That he was a popular Democrat in a Republican county, and as a Democrat was Justice of the Peace; was a trustee of Cambria, Wis., was president of the Board for years, and also for a while acted as clerk. In that same place he was made a Mason, in Lodge No. 52, F. & A. M., and was Master; and he is still a member at Leola, South Dakota.

JOHN G. GOEHRING.—Fresno County is fortunate in having such citizens as John G. Goehring settle within her boundaries. He was born in Germany, May 23, 1876, a son of John G. and Anna (Bischoff) Goehring, the former a successful horticulturist in his native country, where he is still hale and hearty at the advanced age of seventy-three; Mrs. Goehring is no longer living.

John G. Goehring, Jr., like many other men who have successfully battled with the vicissitudes of life, has received both a theoretical and a practical education; the first, as a lad in the schools of his native land, and later on, in the public schools of the country of his adoption, and after that in the school of life's experiences. He was thrown upon his own resources at an early age and by his own unaided efforts has overcome obstacles that would have disheartened many men. In 1892, when but sixteen years of age, he came to the United States, locating in Glasgow, Mo., where he remained five years, earning his own living and attending school. In 1898, he went to Alaska; like thousands of others, being attracted to the land of ice and snow by the fabulous reports concerning the richness of the placers. Not meeting with the success he anticipated he returned to Seattle and there enlisted in Company M, Forty-fifth United States Volunteers, and served in the Philippine Islands while Uncle Sam was at war with that country. At the expiration of twenty-two months he was honorably discharged and came to Stanislaus County, Cal. In the fall of 1902 he came to Fresno and worked in a fruit packing house until 1906, when he joined the police force as patrolman, serving in that capacity five years, and as a detective for four years. In April, 1915, he was appointed chief of police by Mayor Snow. During his incumbency he introduced the card system, made more effective the work of the detectives and increased the morale and efficiency of the force generally.

In proof of Mr. Goehring's efficiency as a peace officer we quote from the Fresno Morning Republican, of February 27, 1919: "Chief of Police John G. Goehring will tender his resignation as head of the Fresno Police Department at the meeting of the Police and Fire Commissioners this morning, to take effect April 1st. He declared that financial reasons and plans to enter private business prompted his action. Goehring has been chief since April, 1915. He entered the service as a patrolman on January 5, 1906. On January 1, 1911, he was made a detective, becoming captain of detectives two months later. Throughout his administration Goehring has been exceptionally active and energetic in the prosecution of his duty. During the war he was espe-

cially active, receiving high commendation from county, state and federal officials. He has been rated as Fresno's best chief of police."

Mr. Goehring was united in marriage October 17, 1917, with Miss Freda Eisele, of Fresno, a daughter of Frederick Eisele, formerly the superintendent of Egger's ranch. Mr. Eisele died fifteen years ago leaving a widow and three children. Mrs. Eisele, whose maiden name was Minnie Schorer, died January 11, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Goehring are the parents of one child: Margaret Anna. Mr. Goehring is a Republican in national politics but in all local matters looks for the best man rather than adhering to party lines. Fraternally he is a member of the Odd Fellows, also of the Modern Woodmen and is a Spanish-American War Veteran. In matters of religion he is a Lutheran.

LESTER H. EASTIN.—Representing one of the most important industries of the San Joaquin Valley, Lester H. Eastin, of Fresno, is a native son of California, and was born in San Jose, November 11, 1885, a son of Henry Eastin. When Lester was a child of four years, he was brought to Fresno by his mother, and was educated in the grammar and high schools of this city, completing his education in 1905. He then struck out to make his own way in the world and entered the employ of the Wells Fargo Express Company, and was in their employ until 1909, when he resigned.

That year Mr. Eastin was offered a position as stenographer with the George C. Roeding Fig Company, and the George C. Roeding Olive Company. On October 22, 1914, these two companies consolidated under the firm name of the Roeding Fig and Olive Company, at which time Mr. Eastin purchased a one-third interest in the business and became manager. The company are packers of figs, and manufacturers of olive oil, and also are engaged in pickling ripe olives, for which commodity they have a rapidly growing market. On June 16, 1914, the two plants had burned down and the company at once began the erection of a fine modern fireproof building, which today ranks among the best of its kind in Fresno. In this sanitary establishment, and on the acreage controlled by the company, employment is given to from fifty to three hundred fifty people, according to season. Their business is far-reaching, extending to all parts of the United States, and to European countries. The growth of the business has been rapid, and founded on a reputation for first class output. The first figs packed in California were packed in Fresno County, on the George C. Roeding ranch, and consisted of five tons; today over 3,000 tons of Calimyrna figs are packed in the state.

Mr. Eastin is a popular member of the B. P. O. Elks, and of the Sunny-side Country Club of Fresno, and of the Olympic Club in San Francisco. In politics he is a Republican.

FREDERICK W. DOCKER.—One of the younger members of the bar of California who is making rapid advancement in the profession he has selected for his life's work, is F. W. Docker of Fresno, at this time filling the important position of assistant district attorney of Fresno County. He was born at Lansingburgh, N. Y., September 13, 1883, and when he was two years old he was taken by his parents to Illinois, where they settled at Waukegan. As the boy was growing up in that locality he attended the public schools of Waukegan, later was a student in the John Marshall High School in Chicago, from which institution he was graduated in 1900. Desiring to fit himself for a profession, Mr. Docker supplemented his public school education by courses at the Lewis Institute in Chicago, and a general collegiate course at the University of Illinois. Fully competent to teach school he secured a position in the public schools of Quincy, Ill., and taught during 1904 and 1905; from there he went to East Chicago, Ind., and taught for a short time. In the fall of 1906 he came West to Prescott, Ariz., and the following four years taught school, followed engineering and read law in the office of the attorney general of the territory.



W. R. Nutting

In 1910 Mr. Docker was united in marriage with Elsie M. Bean, born in Blue Mound, Ill., and a graduate of the University of Illinois. That fall the young couple came to California and located in Ventura, where Mr. Docker taught in the Union High School and at the same time he read law with Judge Robert E. Clarke and George E. Farrand. In 1913 he was admitted to practice in the courts of the state and on August 1, 1915, came to Fresno and began to build up a practice and to make his influence felt in the affairs of the growing city. Two years later, his success as an attorney attracted attention and on August 1, 1917, he was appointed deputy district attorney, and on January 5, 1919, was promoted to the position of assistant district attorney, the position he now holds. During the time that he has filled that responsible office he has won recognition as a lawyer of much ability, has a logical mind and a clear conception and interpretation of the law and is recognized as a very representative citizen of his adopted city. Mr. Docker is a member of the Masonic fraternity; Prescott Lodge No. 330, B. P. O. Elks, and the Commercial Club of Fresno.

W. R. NUTTING.—How a large and beneficent industry may spring from the inspiration, the untiring efforts and the strenuous labor of a great man is well illustrated in the life and accomplishments of William Rufus Nutting, the proprietor of the Fresno Date Nursery Ranch, whose foresight prompted him to found the American Vineyard Company, the California Raisin Exchange and the California Associated Raisin Company, and whose wide and valuable experience and peculiar, individual genius assured their success, as well as the starting of the Thompson seedless raisin industry in the San Joaquin Valley.

Mr. Nutting was born at Hudson, Summit County, Ohio, on September 1, 1850—a day memorable in history as the date of the arrival of Jenny Lind, the “Swedish Nightingale,” in America. The engraving accompanying this article is from a photograph of Mr. Nutting, taken on his sixty-ninth birthday. He is the son of Rufus Nutting, who was a native of Randolph, Vermont, where he was born in 1821. He was a member of the well-known Nutting family, whose first ancestor in the United States was John Nutting, steward of the John Winthrop estate in England, when Winthrop, after June, 1630, with his little fleet of eleven ships, came as governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony and settled among the Indians in what is now New England. John Nutting arrived some years later than Winthrop and the earliest Puritan pioneers, and in 1676, at Groton—named after Winthrop’s birthplace in Suffolk, England—was beheaded by the Indians at the massacre of the whites in what is known as King Philip’s War. According to five different authorities on the derivation of the family names of most interest, Nutting is said to have come originally from the Scandinavian Knut, meaning possibly a “knot,” or a bunch of people, or perhaps a judge or chieftain of a clan in the Danish, Swedish or Norwegian races; so that it is clear that this particular family did not descend directly from King Canute, King of England and Denmark, a family that seems to have died out. From time to time, in various parts of the country, the Nuttings are heard from, and generally with a laurel or two: Charles Cleveland Nutting is the zoologist of the State University of Iowa; Herbert Chester Nutting is an educator of the University of California at Berkeley; and Perley Gilman Nutting is the physicist, long associated with the laboratories of the Eastman Kodak Company and the Westinghouse Electrical Works. Rufus Nutting was a leader in every good work, and in the early sixties started the first farmers’ organization in Randolph, Vt.

Mrs. Nutting was Sarah Hubbard Nutting before her marriage, born at Groton, Mass., about 1821, on the old farm which had been a part of the Nutting family home for perhaps the preceding hundred years. She spared no pains in the training and early education of our subject, who was sent for a while to the district school and then, still in his home town, to the first

State Normal School of Vermont, where, at the age of eighteen, he was graduated from the first course, in the spring of 1868. Prior to that, on account of his father having both a twenty-acre farm and a shop with many wood and iron-working tools, turning lathes, circular saws and other machinery, he had a good deal of training in both farm and shop-work, so that when he left home (on November 5, 1868), he went to work in a factory at Springfield, Vt. On September 1, 1870, he celebrated his twentieth birthday by beginning work as steward of the New Hampshire Reform School at Manchester, where he had charge of certain boys doing the cooking, and of all the boys, about seventy-five in number, at their meals.

Getting tired of that work after nine months, Mr. Nutting left, but he was called back and given a somewhat higher position; and after a few more months he was promoted again and placed in charge of the chair-seating shops, where, within six months, through his organizing ability, he succeeded in raising the earnings of the shops from about \$3,000 to \$6,600 annually, for which the superintendent gave him full credit, in his annual report to the State legislature. Because, however, his pay was not raised in proportion to the increased earnings, Mr. Nutting accepted appointment, at a higher salary, at the Reform School near Portland, Maine, and from there, after a few months, he was attracted to Baltimore, Md., through a still higher salary. Soon after, too, he was offered simultaneously similar positions at the New Jersey Reform School and the Connecticut Reform School; and the latter post at Meriden, being better, with more salary, he accepted it, about the first of September, 1873, and remained there about a year. Then the overwork, care and anxieties of the preceding four years brought on a complete nervous collapse; nevertheless there was some gain, for he can now look back and perceive that the four years given to re-forming the human mind had enabled him to reform, improve and organize both many kinds of business and public enterprises.

Three years after he had ended his reformatory school work, Mr. Nutting started in Boston, in 1877, the business of fitting fine houses with electric lighters for gas burners; and the enterprise grew into the Boston Electric Company, a corporation employing one hundred men by 1881 and lasting for about thirty years after he took up his next venture. While busied with this matter of lighting gas by electricity, Mr. Nutting originated, with the help of one of his mechanics, the nickel-plated push-button plate which has been used to turn electric lights off and on ever since Edison invented the electric light system in 1880; and at the same time he took from the jewelry trade the bead chain, up to that time used for the most part for girls' neck chains, and adapted it to the lighting of pull-burners. This, too, with its acorn pendant, has never been superseded and is universally used in the electric light pull-burners of today. It has been no ordinary delight to Mr. Nutting, in a long life of "starting things," that these two improvements have proven useful to millions of human beings all over the civilized world, and that none of the thousands of bright minds in the electrical business—attracting, though it does, the brightest of intellects—has yet discovered anything better for either purpose. Neither of these devices could be patented, but both have added everywhere to the comfort of living.

While in the electrical specialty at Boston, Mr. Nutting had the pleasure of knowing some of the people who were active in starting the first telephone exchange, called the Telephone Dispatch Company of Boston, and he had one of their 'phones installed between his shop and office. He also happened to see Prof. Alexander Graham Bell teaching in a deaf-mute institute in New York in 1873, three years before Bell exhibited the first "talking machine" or telephone, at the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876. Mr. Nutting also enjoys recalling that he saw Edison's first public exhibition of his new electric light system on the eve of New Year, 1880, or rather the evening of

December 31, 1879, although he is bound to confess that he was so closely wrapped up in pushing his own small electric business, and had not yet grown to have a broad point of view, that he was unable to see at once the greatness of either of the vastly greater inventions.

In 1881, in sixty days, Mr. Nutting raised \$70,000 from among fifty of the largest capitalists in Boston, and in July started what was known as the Herdic system of cheap and quick cross-town conveyance for passengers, using two- or four-wheeled carriages named after their inventor, Peter Herdic of Pennsylvania. They had a crank-axle and a low-hung body, with back entrance and side seats for four or eight people, and came to be much used from 1881 to 1890 for public hire. He ran them from four railroad stations at the south to four stations at the north of the town, and crossed the city in fifteen minutes, while the horse cars of those days took from twenty minutes to an hour or more.

In September of that year he started the same system in Worcester, Mass., then a city of fifty thousand people, with a horse-car system running once in half an hour over a three-mile stretch on the main street, for which a fare of seven cents was charged. Mr. Nutting made his fare five cents, and gave transfers to all points radiating from the center like the spokes of a wheel, and the new system proved such a benefit to the city that it grew very popular; but after a few months the horse railway put in a new equipment and ran oftener than the herdics did and at the same price; and after two years of competition, the railway company succeeded in driving these early "jitneys" out of business. In this enterprise, as with some others since, the community reaped an immense benefit from Mr. Nutting's work, but at a heavy loss to himself and friends.

Meanwhile, he had started the same system in Fitchburg, Fall River and Springfield, Mass., and in each case the competition put new life into the operation of the street railways, greatly to the benefit of the public but at a heavy loss to the projectors. This has been referred to by writers as the first "jitney" system in America, although it was really started by Herdic, formerly of Williamsport, Pa., at Philadelphia and Washington, whereas Mr. Nutting established it in New England, after arranging for Herdic's patent rights. In April, 1881, when the proposed system was first noticed in a brief item in the Boston Herald, that paper remarked editorially that anyone who could establish such a system in Boston would be entitled to a monument on the historic Common; but if such a memorial has been erected by the Bostonians, Mr. Nutting has not yet heard of the honor. It was some satisfaction to him, however, to be told years later that the city of Worcester alone could well have afforded to make him a present of \$100,000 for the benefit done that community by the Nutting system of herdics.

Following his losses, Mr. Nutting was anxious to get into some far-off country with entirely different conditions, where he could at least hope to capitalize his experience and ambitions and make up his losses; he therefore took a temporary appointment as manager for California of the Union Mutual Life Insurance Company. In October, 1884, he came to San Francisco with his family; and partly because the cooperative insurance companies were so popular just then, but largely because he had no acquaintance on the Coast and the Union Mutual was not widely known, it proved impossible to make a success in that line, and for years Mr. Nutting found it exceedingly difficult to support himself and family, and educate his children in the common schools and the University at Berkeley, where he had settled on coming West.

In November, 1885, Mr. Nutting performed his first service of wide community value in California when he wrote a column and a half for the San Francisco Evening Post as to what he had learned in Boston, and through an investigation in Dakota and Montana, of the great benefit up to that time of the farm mortgage loan system of the original Lombard Investment Com-

Mr. Nutting says no small part of his life-work is due to his teacher at school having given him the following "piece to speak" at an early age. Reprinted now it may help attract some one else to a life of philanthropic activity, instead of only selfish money-making.

ABOU BEN ADHEM

Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase!)
 Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace,
 And saw within the moonlight in the room,
 Making it rich and like a lily in bloom,
 An angel writing in a book of gold.
 Exceeding peace had made Ben Adhem bold,
 And to the presence in the room he said,
 "What writest thou?" The vision raised his head
 And, with a look made all of sweet accord,
 Answered, "The names of those who love the Lord."
 "And is mine one?" said Adhem. "Nay, not so,"
 Replied the angel. Adhem spoke more low,
 But cheerily still, and said, "I pray thee, then,
 Write me as one who loves his fellow men."
 The angel wrote and vanished; the next night
 He came again with a great awakening light,
 And showed the names whom love of God had blest
 And lo! Ben Adhem's name led all the rest.

—LEIGH HUNT.

RALPH H. SCOTT.—An aggressive and progressive California agriculturist, who is highly esteemed by his friends and acquaintances, is Ralph H. Scott, who was born at Selma, on August 27, 1895, the son of the late Hon. L. D. Scott, a native of Clinton, Ill., a statesman who had much to do with guiding California to its destiny. His mother was Miss Florence A. Persinger, a native of Sydney, Ohio. The family came to California in 1886, and settled at Clifton, Fresno County, later called Del Rey, but in 1891 they moved to Selma.

The youngest of four children, Ralph H. was educated at the public schools, and graduated from the Selma high school in 1913. He was then employed in various fruit-packing houses, and in time became a foreman. After that he became a dairyman, and ran a dairy on the family estate in the Dunkard district. In 1916 he located on a ranch which he had inherited from his father. This is an exceptionally fine tract of 320 acres, eleven miles west of Fresno, on Jensen Avenue. Here he immediately began improvements for intensified farming, leveling and checking the land, and sowing alfalfa and is raising alfalfa and stock. He has erected a comfortable residence, and other suitable farm buildings. He is a member of the California Alfalfa Growers' Association.

At Selma occurred the marriage of Mr. Scott and Miss Laura Fosberg, a native daughter of Texas who moved to California and for a while lived at Kingsburg. The union has been blessed with one child, Harriet.

CLOYD BURTON MONTGOMERY.—An enterprising, successful stockman and rancher is Cloyd Burton Montgomery, who operates one of his father's ranches consisting of 220 acres about three and a half miles southeast of Riverdale. He keeps a herd of fine, registered Holstein cattle, registered Poland-China hogs, and conducts a dairy. Mr. Montgomery's father is Litchfield Y. Montgomery, the well-known ex-supervisor of Kings County, who now resides at 244 U Street, Fresno, of whom a more detailed sketch is given on another page of this history. Born at Grangeville on August 29, 1892, Cloyd B. Montgomery attended the district school, then went to the high school at Hanford, and afterward took a commercial course at Heald's Business College, Fresno. When only twenty he started to run the stock farm of 220 acres referred to above.

On December 24, 1914, Mr. Montgomery was married to Miss Mary Shellabarger, a native of Kings County and the daughter of F. P. and Sadie Danham Shellabarger, pioneers of Kings County and well-to-do farmers there.



Isaac Myer

One child has blessed this union, and he is named Leland Niles. He took the Grand Sweepstakes Prize at the "Better Babies Show" at the Kings County Fair, 1916-17. He was given first place in his class in both contests, and scored ninety-eight per cent. perfect.

Mrs. Montgomery is the third child in a family of four. The eldest is Phil. Shellabarger, who runs the Willard Service Station at Hanford; the next in order of birth was Laura, now the wife of A. W. Clark, the orange-grower of Porterville; Mary, now Mrs. Montgomery; and Lloyd who volunteered as a member of the Marines when the War broke out. He was a sergeant, served in France from 1918 until his discharge and is now in Hanford. Among his comrades was his best friend, who was blown to pieces by the bursting of a German shrapnel shell, and also one who was gassed and almost killed and rendered unable to go to the front again. But before he was incapacitated he took fifteen German prisoners while alone at one time, and was wounded in his right hand by a piece of shrapnel. For heroic service in volunteering to go into No Man's Land and thus facing the deadly German fire, he was recommended for the French cross.

Mr. Montgomery has become such a man of affairs that he employs from two to eight men, according to the season, while in politics he is active in the councils of the Democrats. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America.

JUDGE ISAAC MYER.—One of the prominent men of the West Side in Fresno County is Isaac Myer, who came to Firebaugh as early as 1875. He was born in Thalfang, Rhenish Prussia, Germany, on June 5, 1850, being the next to the youngest of seven children born to Leopold and Clara (Levy) Myer. The father was a stock-dealer and a business man of large affairs until he retired, his death occurring at the advanced age of ninety-three years, while his wife had preceded him, reaching only the age of sixty-two years.

Isaac Myer received a thorough education in the public and high school, from which he graduated, and then entered the employ of a wholesale lace and fancy goods house, continuing with them as a clerk until the breaking out of the Franco-Prussian War in 1870, when he was called to the colors and was assigned to the sanitary corps. After the war he continued clerking until 1875, when he came to Firebaugh, Fresno County, where his brother Jacob had preceded him two years.

Soon after his arrival Mr. Myer purchased the store and stock of goods on Big Penoche, then in Fresno County, and engaged in general merchandising, continuing with increasing success for eight years; at the same time he also engaged in stock-raising. Selling the store to John Oliver in 1883, he removed to Seattle and engaged in the clothing business. However, he did not like the climate and so he returned to Fresno County. He established a gents' furnishing goods store in Fresno on Mariposa Street, near I Street, and did a successful business; two years later, however, he sold out and moved to San Benito County, and ran a mercantile business for about four years. Returning to Firebaugh in 1890, he became proprietor of the Firebaugh Hotel, where he was "mine host" for five years, after which he sold and moved to Fresno and ran a cigar store also with good success; two years later he moved to Mendota where he resided for fourteen years, engaged in the mercantile business as well as running the Cash Register Hotel. During this time the store and contents and also the hotel were burned, after which he rebuilt the store for his sons, who put in a new merchandise stock. The second year after he located at Mendota he was elected Justice of the Peace, and was reelected, filling the office to the satisfaction of the people.

In 1914, Judge Myer moved the office, as well as his residence, to Firebaugh, finishing his term of office in January, 1915. In the meantime the city of Firebaugh was incorporated and he was appointed the first City Recorder, a position he still holds, while he is also engaged in real estate and insurance, as well as holding a commission as a notary public. He is also serving as

clerk of the school board and is active in building the new modern school-house. He is an active member and chairman of the Firebaugh Merchants Association. Judge Myer is broad-minded and is an enthusiastic booster for the County and is also an active member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. During the World War he received the appointment from Washington as explosive inspector for his district, the duties of which he attended to faithfully.

In San Francisco occurred the marriage of Judge Myer to Miss Otilie Levy, a native of Koeln, Germany. He was bereaved of his faithful helpmate on August 8, 1916, leaving him four children: Amy, who is Mrs. Wickersham, of Fresno; Irma Viola, with the State Compensation Bureau of Fresno and who is a young lady of much ability; Oscar L., a traveling man making the state of Oregon; Albert Leo, who was in the United States Army, serving over-seas and is just returned from France and now living in Fresno.

Judge Myer was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M.; he is prominent in the Knights of Pythias as a charter member of Sunset Lodge No. 193, K. of P., Mendota, having served as Council Commander. He organized Firebaugh Lodge No. 335, K. of P., of which he is Past Chancellor, and is now serving as Deputy Grand Chancellor. He is also a member and ex-President of Fresno Lodge, B'nai B'rith, as well as a member of the Red Cross. He was prominent in the different war drives and was chairman of the local committee for the Third Liberty Loan and they went "over the top" early.

Mr. Myer is liberal and kind-hearted, and has accomplished much good by his timely aid and helpfulness in an unostentatious way. He is held in the highest esteem and regarded as a leader in the community.

JAMES H. DAVIS.—Among the residents of Fresno County there are none who have contributed more in the exercise of energy and industry than James H. Davis. He was born in Schuyler County, Mo., November 30, 1847, and came to Fresno County in 1874, and is one of its later pioneers. His father, H. M. Davis, and his mother, Julia (Brower) Davis, were both natives of Kentucky. The mother died when James was but a small child. In 1851, his father and family, together with two brothers, William B. and Wilson, started for California, crossing the plains with ox teams. When they reached Green River, Wyo., they built a number of boats and conducted a ferry for the convenience of emigrants, giving night and day service, for two summers they carried on this work, and in the fall of 1852 left for California, locating in Grizzly Flat, Eldorado County, where they mined for a time. Later the father farmed near Vacaville, Solano County, where he died in 1910.

Although but a child when his father crossed the plains, James remembers some of the incidents of the trip. As far as the eye could see the plains were covered with buffalos, and what was most interesting to the boy, were the men riding to and fro with their hats off, their hair flying in the wind, keeping the buffalo from stampeding the cattle of the emigrants. Then there were Indians who harassed the travelers to such an extent that they were in almost constant fear.

Mr. Davis was educated in the public schools and in the old Pacific Methodist College at Vacaville. When a boy of fifteen years, in 1862, he drove a band of cattle to Idaho, remaining away one year, traveling through Grand Ronde Valley, Ore., with his stock. Returning to Vacaville, he worked for his father and on ranches, and in 1874 he started for himself; coming to Fresno County, locating near Kingston. He later bought 100 acres on Cross Creek, improved it and farmed to grain for two years. He then rented the Hineland ranch, near Lemoore, where he engaged in grain farming. In 1886 he homesteaded 160 acres, four miles east of Coalinga, where he now makes his home. He is raising grain (wheat and Egyptian corn), and has a family orchard.

Mr. Davis is an engineer by trade, and for a few years he rented his ranch and worked in the oil fields in McKittrick, Kern County, also worked at his trade for three years in the Coalinga oil fields, but returned to his ranch in 1915. It speaks volumes for his vim and vigor that he is still, even at his advanced age, looking after the affairs of his ranch taking all care of it. When he located in Kingston in 1874, he put in his first crop of grain in partnership with A. C. Williams. Later Mr. Williams was county clerk of Fresno County for twelve years.

In the early days Mr. Davis was a school trustee, and when road masters were elected to office he was chosen to take care of the roads in the Coalinga district; later when that office was filled by appointment from the Supervisor, Mr. Davis was twice appointed, once by a Republican and once by a Democratic administration. While occupying this office, he built many of the roads of the early times—the Warthan Canyon Road, the oil field roads, and always did good work, serving in office for ten years. He came into this district before the town of Coalinga was started, and was one of the founders of the town, “Coalinga” taking its name from a coal mine discovered in the mountains.

Mr. Davis married Nancy Jane Heriford, who was born in Sonoma County, of an old pioneer family. To them were born five children: Mrs. Clara Keyser, of San Francisco, who has one child; Mrs. Jessie Wood, of Coalinga, who has two children; Mrs. Doris Edwards; Oscar A., with the Shell Company; Harvey E., in United States Field Artillery—served six months in the Philippine Islands, later at Fort Still, Okla., and was discharged for disability. Mr. Davis has always believed in the Golden Rule, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” He has no enemies, that he knows of and has always tried to make his given word as good as his bond. In the evening of his days he looks back with no regrets, and forward without fear.

ROY P. MATHEWS.—What intelligence, foresight, wisdom to choose the right field of endeavor—the field for which one is by natural inclination and temperament and personal gifts best fitted, and a patriotic desire to advance, as far as possible, the development of the State’s resources, may be learned from the perusal of the sketch of Roy P. Mathews, one of the most extensive orange, olive and fig producers in Fresno County. The grandson of a distinguished pioneer, Mr. Mathews was born in Oakland on October 3, 1880. His father was William A. Mathews, born in San Francisco, April 18, 1850. Two sons gave promise of carrying forward the family name, but the brother of Roy, W. C. Mathews, passed away at an early age.

The Mathews family was indeed one deserving of a high place on the roll of honor of the State already so rich in notable names. The grandfather was Judge Edwin Goodrich Mathews, a forty-niner who located at Oakland and homesteaded 160 acres, the site of the present city of East Oakland. In the early seventies he was one of the largest grain brokers in California.

Roy was educated in the public schools of various grades in his native city, and entered the University of California with the class of 1903. Leaving college, he went into the wholesale jewelry business, in San Francisco. His marriage, November 25, 1908, united him with Miss Jeanette Merritt, the daughter of H. P. Merritt, who had married Jeanette E. Hebron. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Mathews: Marjorie Merritt, and Jane Eloise. No happier home may be found for miles around, and cheer and hospitality greet friend and stranger there, and do much to maintain those old, charming traditions of California life.

Mr. Mathews is a scientific orchardist, and in his work follows only the most approved methods. Of the Santa Juanita Ranch, 125 acres are devoted to various kinds of fruit, forty-five being devoted to oranges, twenty to figs, twenty-three to olives, thirty to Thompson grapes, four to avocados, and

three to grapefruit. The beautiful residence, costing \$10,000, rises at the foot-hills of the Sierra range, and commands an inspiring view—groves of oranges, olives and figs in the foreground, with the mountains for a setting; the whole forming one of the most beautiful spots in all the State for a country home. About fifty acres of the orchards belong to Mrs. Jeanette E. Merritt, mother of Mrs. Roy Mathews.

When the great history of California comes to be written in its entirety and proper proportion, the names of Merritt, Hebron and Mathews will find a worthy and enviable place with those lists of pioneers that posterity will remember with fond recollections.

J. W. MYERS.—A conscientious, careful and indefatigable worker, who has become a small ranch-owner in very comfortable circumstances, and who enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens, is J. W. Myers, brother of Mrs. Malissa Claytor, widow of the late Thomas Claytor. This lady owns and resides upon a ranch of forty acres, two miles east of Selma, where Mr. Myers also resides; and having leased it for three years, he is giving it his most intelligent attention and industrious care.

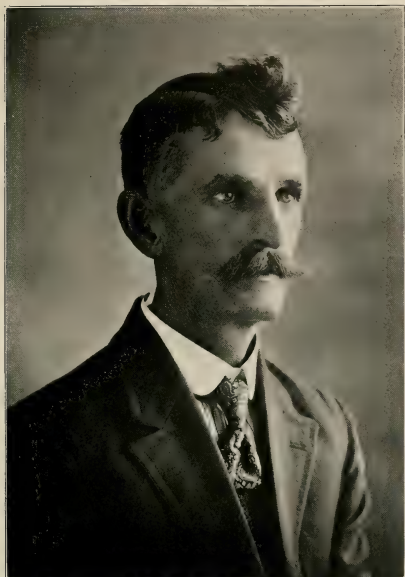
Mr. Myers was born in Caldwell County, Mo., on June 22, 1872, the son of George W. Myers, a native of Nashville, Tenn., who enlisted in the Union Army and served throughout the Civil War. Later he was united in marriage at Nebraska City, Nebr., to Miss Charlotte Meyers, after which he farmed for several years in Missouri, where our subject was born and reared. There were seven children in all, six boys and one girl.

During the great boom in California, in 1887, J. W. Myers came out to the Golden State, and since then he has spent most of his time in working by the month on neighboring ranches. He saved his earnings, however, and is now the owner of twenty unimproved acres west of Selma.

His progress has been slow but sure, as might be expected of one pursuing his upright methods. His crop for 1918 yielded \$6,000 of which his share was one-half. He is still single, and thus able to devote the major part of his time to his pressing affairs. As a patriotic citizen working in national civic matters under the banners of the Democratic party, but disregarding party politics in matters of local improvement and advancement, Mr. Myers is a loyal supporter of the administration and of the government's war policy.

JOHN GREENUP SIMPSON, SR.—No state in the Union maintains a deeper pride in her pioneers than does California, nor has any state a greater reason for so doing. It is the pioneers of California, who by their hardships and sacrifices rendered possible the comforts of the present era. Their patient courage was the foundation stone upon which the permanent superstructure of a commonwealth was built; their zeal was a constant bulwark against disappointments, and their enterprise founded towns, improved farms and made the "desert bloom as the rose." Among such pioneers an honored place belongs to the late John G. Simpson, Sr., whose memory is treasured as that of a resourceful citizen and kind friend, and whose name is perpetuated by descendants inheriting the qualities that inspired his successful career.

On a farm in Kentucky, John G. Simpson was born October 22, 1829, and from there he went to Missouri with his parents, Robert and Keziah (Greenup) Simpson, settling with them on a tract of raw land in Miller County, where they remained until death. At the time of attaining young manhood he was confronted by the opportunity to settle in California, concerning which but little was known. Desiring to seek his fortune amid the untried conditions of the coast he started with ox teams across the plains, being a member of the party under Governor Edwards, with whom also came J. C. Thompson of Fresno County. At first he tried his luck at mining in Mariposa County, but the result was unsatisfactory and he turned his attention to teaming from Fort Miller to Stockton and the mountains. The next



J. W. Myess



S. H. Simpson



John C. Simpson

venture in which he became interested was a butcher and stock business with J. N. Musick as a partner. On the dissolution of the partnership in 1861 he became interested in ranching, at first renting land on Dry Creek and later entering land from the government.

Coming to the vicinity of Academy, Fresno County, in 1863, Mr. Simpson began to buy land and sheep, and eventually acquired title to about eight sections. The qualities which made him successful in the acquisition of property contributed to his pre-eminence in other departments of activity. The Democratic party to which he always gave steadfast support, for many years retained him in the office of county superintendent of schools, and as a director he aided in the building of the academy. Indeed, the cause of education in this vicinity had no supporter more staunch than he, and his advice was often sought by those in whose hands rested the training of the youth of this locality. Fraternally he held membership with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in religious connections affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Mr. Simpson served on the board of supervisors when Millerton was the county seat.

The marriage of John G. Simpson was solemnized at Visalia, September 13, 1859, and united him with Miss Sarah M. Baley, who was born in Nodaway County, Mo. The Baley family is of eastern extraction. William Baley, an easterner by birth and education, followed the tide of emigration westward and settled among the pioneers of Missouri, where he passed his remaining years on a farm. Among his children was a son, William Right Baley, a native of Madison County, Mo., and for some years a farmer in Nodaway County, that state. When the discovery of gold in California, in 1848, drew the eyes of the entire world to this section he determined to try the fickle goddess, Fortune, in the far-distant regions. The year 1849 found him a pioneer emigrant on the plains, where he traveled with Judge Gillum Baley. Naturally the mines were his goal and, still following the experience of others, he had no especial good luck in the mines, yet the months were not wholly unfruitful of results.

Returning to Missouri in 1852, William Right Baley took up agricultural pursuits which he had relinquished for the more adventurous life of a miner. In 1857 he again started for the west, this time accompanied by his family. The second trip was marked by misfortune. After having spent the winter at Albuquerque the party proceeded westward via the Colorado River and there one evening suffered an attack from a large number of savage Indians. The white men were conquered by superior numbers and were forced to helplessly watch the red men drive their stock across the river. Left without any means of proceeding on their journey, men, women and children walked back to Albuquerque. A search there for new equipment was almost a failure, but they finally secured a few thin cattle and started again for the west. Soon the cattle gave out and were killed and eaten by the little band of almost starved emigrants. Again they were forced to return to Albuquerque, this time driven by pangs of keenest hunger. Their condition was pitiable in the extreme. Footsore and starving, they finally landed in the town where comforts were procured for the suffering crowd. It was remarked by all that the women of the party had endured all of the hardships of this memorable journey without uttering a word of complaint; the frightful sufferings were endured with a patience born of true heroism, nor did they give up in despair although it became necessary for them to walk the entire distance to California.

After having passed through Los Angeles, in the fall of 1858 William Right Baley settled at Visalia and engaged in teaming. Later he removed to Stockton. About 1865 he embarked in the stock business on Big Dry Creek, Fresno County, and here he continued to make his home until he died in 1883. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Nancy Funderburk, was born in Tennessee and died in California.

Sarah M., Mrs. Simpson, was the eldest of the eleven children born to them and she was educated in subscription schools held in log buildings near her Missouri home and naturally her advantages were few, yet she attained a broad knowledge and was a woman of refinement. After the death of her husband in September, 1877, she continued to reside at the old homestead near Academy, until her death on May 2, 1918, at the age of seventy-seven. She owned 1,100 acres near Academy and made a specialty of the stock business. For many years she was identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, whose activities had in her a generous contributor and encouraging assistant. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson had seven children, but two have passed on, namely: Mary, Mrs. Henry Hazelton, who died at Academy; and William who was accidentally drowned in 1893 while bathing in the canal at Sanger. Thomas J. is a stockman and owns the old Simpson Ranch at Academy, but resides in Fresno; Marvin, an ex-member of the California Legislature, resides in Sanger; John G. and George P. have their homes in Fresno and Lizzie is Mrs. John Fly of Exeter.

MRS. MARY SCHULTZ.—A woman with an interesting history is Mrs. Mary Schultz, the widow of the late William H. Schultz, the extensive pioneer land-owner and stock-raiser, and for a while the leading Fresno County sheepman in the Elkhorn district. She herself is the representative of a wealthy German family, and she has counted among her California friends some of the best-known men and women of the Golden State. She divides her residence between 1139 R Street, Fresno, the home of Mrs. Philip Koehler, and the old Schultz home ranch, two miles north of Burrel.

Mrs. Schultz was born March 26, 1861, at Rheinpfalz, on the River Rhine, in Germany, where her mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Koehler, was still living, in April, 1917, at the entrance of the United States into the war with Germany. She was then eighty-three, and the last letter received from her arrived about that time. The father was Jacob Langfinger, who was a vineyardist and owned a fine home and a place of 100 acres, mostly devoted to the culture of vines. He came from a well-to-do German family, and he died in 1910, at the age of eighty-one. Six girls and two boys made up the family; and they are: Kate, the wife of Philip Koehler, who resides in Fresno; Elizabeth, who is married and lives in Germany; Marie or Mary, the subject of our sketch; and Barbara, Madge and Anna, all of whom are married and still residents of Germany, and Philip and Jacob, both of whom are single, and have remained in the Fatherland. Marie was brought up in the Lutheran Church and attended the ordinary grammar-grade schools.

Her older sister, Kate, had married Mr. Koehler in Germany and with her husband and their one child, and Mary, she came to Firebaugh, Cal., in 1877, at which place Mr. Koehler was employed by Miller & Lux as their foreman on the old Columbia Ranch for three years. Mrs. Schultz often talked with Henry Miller and often served him with meals, when he came their way. At the end of three years, the Koehlers' moved to Merced, there to remain two years, and Mrs. Schultz went with them, as indeed wherever they migrated; in 1881, they came to Fresno, and then they went back to Merced.

At Fresno, Miss Langfinger met William H. Schultz, to whom she was married on March 21, 1882. He then owned three sections of land northeast of what is now Burrel, viz. sections 24, 25, 27, and a band of 3,000 sheep, and he was well-known in Fresno and Fresno County. Mr. Schultz bought this land in early days, and for a while they lived near Elkhorn.

Mr. Schultz was born in Saxony on September 25, 1847, a member of a very respectable family in ordinary circumstances. He made three trips to America as a cabin boy, coming to New York on his last trip in 1864; and concluding to come to San Francisco, he journeyed by way of Panama. When he reached the Isthmus, however, he was taken sick with the Panama fever; and there he had to stay for more than a year. Finally, he landed at San



Mr and Mrs J. R. Ducey.

Francisco in 1865. Some time after his arrival he bought sections 25 and 27 from the Southern Pacific Railway Company, and section 24 from a private party. He had acquired water rights and recorded his deeds at Millerton, the county seat.

With a partner he ran a restaurant in San Francisco, and then came up to Elkhorn, where he became interested in sheep, after which he bought his land. He was always a good business man, made money and had many friends. He was a public-spirited pioneer, and often served on the Grand Jury and in other positions of responsibility. He was a life-long Republican, and grew up in the Presbyterian faith. His death occurred on March 19, 1895, when he was only forty-eight years old.

Mr. and Mrs. Schultz were the parents of two children. William Henry was a mechanical engineer, he died December 26, 1918; and Armand W. is an extensive farmer and stock-raiser, and runs the Schultz home place. He was married in 1912 to Miss Laura Chartrand, daughter of A. E. Chartrand, at one time a well-known creameryman of Fresno, and now retired. They have two children—William and Gretchen Marie. Armand owns 310 acres and farms, all in all including the land of his mother, over 600 acres.

Mrs. Schultz now belongs to the Unitarian Church of Fresno, and is active in many good works—religious, patriotic, sociological. She loves her adopted country, as she looks back fondly to the scenes of her youth and the associations of her near-of-kin; and she never neglects an opportunity to put America first, and to advance Fresno County and its interests whenever and wherever she can.

THOMAS R. DUCEY.—That success often depends not so much upon heredity and environment as upon what a man makes of himself, is exemplified in the life of Thomas R. Ducey, who was born in Shullsburg, Lafayette County, Wis., January 17, 1865, and who, at the age of eleven, was bereft of his father. The father, Maurice Ducey, was born in County Cork, Ireland, coming to Shullsburg while a young man, in 1836. He bought government land and engaged in farming, and later discovered lead ore on the place, three miles out of Shullsburg. He followed mining with his farming, until his death in 1876. His mother, Ellen Troy, was born in Waterford County, Ireland, and died in Wisconsin in 1882. They had seven children, four boys and three girls, of whom two sons and one daughter are living.

Thomas R. Ducey was the second youngest son and the only one in California. After his father died, he was brought up in Shullsburg, attending the Sisters' school. At the age of fifteen years he migrated to Pocahontas County, Iowa, where he worked on farms for eighteen months. Then he went to Ponca City, Dixon County, Nebr., following farm work for a year; then he spent a short time in Dubuque, Iowa, after which he went back to Shullsburg where he attended a term in the Sisters' school. Then he went to Dubuque again, and on to Calhoun County, Iowa, where he remained one year. While here his mother died, and he returned to Shullsburg and sold out the estate. With his brother, John J., he came to Denver, Colo., following farm work, until in 1887 he migrated to Routt County, Colo., at Steamboat Springs, 150 miles from the railroad. He homesteaded 160 acres, engaging in raising stock, grain and hay, and continued in this business for seventeen years, having 200 acres, with plenty of range, upon which he ran cattle, his brand being a half circle.

Mr. Ducey was school trustee and also overseer of the roads for many years. He was the first postmaster of Deer Creek, serving four years. In his pioneering in Colorado he used to freight to and from Denver, making the trip of 200 miles in twenty-two days, camping on the road enroute. He crossed the continental divide at Berthoud's Pass, at the headwaters of Clear Creek. He also hauled freight from Rawlins, Wyo., 180 miles distant.

In 1905 he sold out and went to Twin Falls, Idaho, but remained there but a short time, coming that same year to Clovis, Cal., where his father-in-

law lived. He bought a small ranch, operating it one year, and then going to Easton, where he remained for eighteen months, when he sold his ranch. He then bought twenty acres in peaches and vineyard at Fowler and lived there four years, and then came to Barstow Colony in 1911, where he bought thirty acres, and engaged in alfalfa raising and dairying, with an orchard and vineyard. This he now rents to his son. In 1918 he bought twenty acres of raw land near the same place, and intends to plant a vineyard and orchard. He has built a residence upon this.

On October 20, 1889, in Routt County, Colo., Mr. Ducey married Miss Roxie E. Fly, who was born in Barry County, Mo., daughter of John W. Fly, of Clovis. They have three children: Rachel Ellen, now Mrs. O. B. Morrison, rancher, Barstow; John J., on the home place; and Maurice Daniel, assisting his parents. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ducey are members of the Fraternal Brotherhood at Barstow. Mr. Ducey is a stockholder in the California Peach Growers, Inc., a member of the California Associated Raisin Company; and a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Company. In politics he is a Democrat.

Mr. Ducey has had a good many interesting experiences, and has seen many hardships, but his unflinching good humor and his Irish grit have enabled him to master them all, and today he can view his undoubted success in the assurance that he has achieved it by his own efforts.

N. LINDSAY SOUTH.—Among the successful and popular representatives of distinguished Southern families in California, none enjoys the esteem of a wider circle of friends than N. Lindsay South, the well-known attorney and member of the firm of South & Ross, whose offices are at 119-21 Forsyth Building, Fresno. He was born in Franklin County, Ky., on September 28, 1879, the son of the Rev. James Knox Polk South of Kentucky, and the grandson of Colonel Jerry South, whose family came originally from Scotland, settled first in Virginia and then laid the foundation for part of the commonwealth of Kentucky, and took a very honorable part in the Indian and Colonial wars. Colonel South became prominent in Kentucky politics during ante-bellum days, served in both the Assembly and the Senate of the State Legislature, and died on duty during a session of the latter body. James Knox Polk South and seven brothers enlisted from the mountain districts of Kentucky in the Confederate Army, although he was only fifteen years of age, and served throughout the War, taking the rank of Lieutenant in the Fifth Kentucky Orphan Brigade under General McCreary, who later served the State of Kentucky in the United States Senate and also as Governor of the State. After the War, one of Lieutenant South's brothers was murdered by a feudalist; and the lieutenant, to keep himself in the grace of God and so resist the natural temptation for revenge, took up the work of the Christian ministry.

He graduated from the old Transylvania, now the Kentucky University, and is still an active minister in the Christian Church. He met and married Endora Lindsay, of a family descended from Edinburgh Scotch and in time prominent in American history, and herself a graduate of Hocker College, Lexington. She became a noted educator, and was principal of the well-known Excelsior Institute. She was also an author; and when she died, in April, 1918, she had given to the world two important contributions from her pen,—a volume on "Luther in Rome," and another entitled, "Wayside Notes and Fireside Thoughts."

N. Lindsay South was the second eldest of eight children, and was fortunate in receiving his primary educational training in the Institute conducted by his mother. He then attended the Kentucky University at Lexington, and afterward pursued a literary and oratorical course at the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston. Having also completed a stiff and very fruitful course in literature in Harvard, he followed the old-time custom of young gentlemen of the South and went abroad for a year's travel in Europe.

On his return to America, Mr. South studied law for two and a half years, and in 1905 was admitted to the Kentucky Bar. The next year he began to practice law at Frankfort, Ky., continuing until 1911, during which time, for a couple of years, he was assistant to Napoleon Bonaparte Hayes, Attorney-General of Kentucky.

Coming to California to reside in 1911, to which State Mr. South's fame as a jurist had preceded him, he was at once welcomed to the California Bar, since which time his winning personality, intellectual gifts and high sense of honor and integrity have brought him and his partner an ever-increasing and more and more desirable clientèle. He is a member of the county and the state bar associations, and also of the Christian Church in whose ministry his father had distinguished himself. A Democrat in matters of national political import, Mr. South casts partisanship to the winds in local affairs, and always favors the man he knows to be best qualified for the office, and so finds pleasure in assisting his friends.

In October, 1912, Mr. South was married at San Francisco to Miss Nell C. Clanton, a native of Texas, and two children have blessed the union and bear the family name. One is Nell C. South, and the other is Jean Weldon South.

GEORGE E. SMITH.—Numbered among the successful and enterprising viticulturists on Whites Bridge Road, is George E. Smith, who was born at Fremont, Wis., December 9, 1858, a son of Samuel D. and Catherine (Sumner) Smith. The father was a native of Ontario, Canada, and when a young man of twenty years came with his parents to Green Lake County, Wis., where he engaged in carpentering and building. In Fremont County he was united in marriage with Catherine Sumner, a native of New York State.

In 1862 the family moved to Blue Earth City, Minn., where the father engaged in contracting but later returned to Fremont, Wis., where he followed farming and where he died in July, 1918, aged eighty-four years. The mother is still living at the advanced age of seventy-five years and resides at Poysippi, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel D. Smith were the parents of ten children, all of whom are living, George E., being the oldest; the others are in order of birth: Ira, Frank, and William who are farmers in Washington; Albert, is a dairy farmer at Grand Rapids, Wis.; Howard, at the old home in Wisconsin; Cora, is Mrs. Russell of Berlin, Wis.; Maggie, is now Mrs. Sholtz, of Oshkosh, Wis.; Nora, Mrs. Cady of Madison, Wis.; Nettie, is married and resides in Southern Illinois.

George E. Smith was reared in Minnesota and attended the public school in that state, but at the age of sixteen years returned to Wisconsin with his parents and helped his father with the work on the farm until he was eighteen, when he started out for himself working on farms, following farming until he was twenty-seven years of age.

On March 7, 1888, George E. Smith was united in marriage at Poysippi, Wis., with Miss Lucinda Cady, a native of Madison, that state, and a daughter of B. A. Cady, a well known attorney who practiced his profession at Poysippi. During the Civil War he served in a Wisconsin regiment of infantry and was wounded in battle after which he returned to Poysippi where he again practiced law, later continuing at Birnamwood, Shawano County. At the latter city he was honored by being elected prosecuting attorney and district attorney, and for several terms represented his district in the State Assembly. He is still a resident of Birnamwood where he practices his profession. Her mother, in maidenhood, Julia Shepherd, was a native of Courtland County, N. Y., and she died at Poysippi in 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Cady were the parents of five children, Mrs. Smith being the oldest; the others are: Frank, of Madera, Cal.; Albert, of Birnamwood, Wis.; Maggie, who passed away four years ago; Myrta, is now Mrs. Cottrell of Poysippi.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. George E. Smith bought a farm at Poysippi, where they were engaged in stock-raising and general farming

until 1904, when they removed to the Golden State, locating in Fresno County. After arriving in California, Mr. Smith purchased forty acres of land on Whites Bridge Road, two miles west of the city of Fresno where he engaged in viticulture. Since then he sold off twenty acres, but still retains twenty of the original purchase where he lives and which is devoted to muscat and Thompson seedless grapes and here he makes his home. Mr. and Mrs. Smith are the parents of two children: Iva M., wife of George Winterberg and resides in this district; and Dale, still under the parental roof.

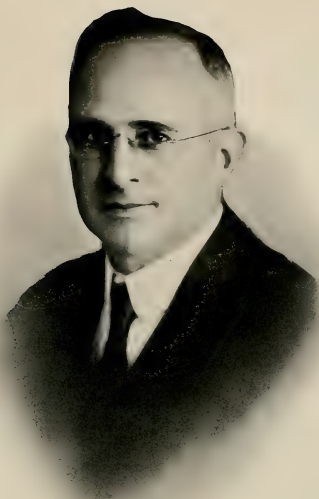
Mr. and Mrs. Smith are leaders in the Advent Church, at Fresno. Mrs. Smith is superintendent of the Sabbath School held in the old school house in the Madison district, and is a deaconess in the Fresno church. Mr. Smith is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and in national politics supports the Republican ticket.

ALLEN T. BORST.—A prominent citizen who has faithfully striven to aid in developing the commonwealth of California, is Allen T. Borst, the general manager of the Bunting Iron Works, who was born in Centralia, Lewis County, Wash., on January 21, 1873. His father, Joseph Borst, was a native of Schoharie County, N. Y., born October 17, 1821, and when a young man he crossed the plains in an ox team train in 1845, following the old Oregon Trail to Oregon City, where he wintered. In the spring of 1846 he continued his journey to the Puget Sound country in Washington, where he was among the very first settlers of what is now Centralia, Lewis County. Here he located a donation land claim and settled down to improve the place for his home. He served in two Indian wars in Washington. He was married in Lewis County to Mary Adeline Roundtree, born in Illinois, June 1, 1838, the daughter of Dr. James N. Roundtree, a pioneer of Illinois. He served in the Black Hawk Indian War as a captain, and was commissioned a surgeon in the Mexican War, but soon after joining the colors he was taken ill and obliged to return home. In 1852 he brought his family across the plains to Lewis County, Wash., where he was a pioneer physician and surgeon, also serving in the Indian war. He spent his last days at Centralia. Joseph Borst was a successful farmer and stock-raiser, he also owned a ranch at Ellensburg, Eastern Washington, which he devoted to cattle growing, and where he passed away in 1885. His widow survives him, and resides at Centralia. Eight children were born to this worthy couple, four of whom are living.

The youngest of the living children, Allen T. Borst, attended the public schools in Washington and later entered Washington College, at Irvington, Cal., where he pursued the general business courses and graduated with honors. After that he took up farming in Washington, and remained there until June, 1897, in which year he located in Centerville, Alameda County, Cal., where he continued general farming and the raising of fruit. He liked the country and lived there until 1906. Two years before that he became private secretary to John A. Bunting, the well-known oil man and iron manufacturer of San Francisco and Coalinga. This engagement led him, on July 1, 1905, to make his first visit to Coalinga, and thereafter, while private secretary for Mr. Bunting, he divided his time between San Francisco and Coalinga until June, 1907, when he made Coalinga his home.

For a year Mr. Borst was assistant manager of the Bunting Iron Works, in Coalinga and then he took charge of the Shawmut Oil Company, owned by Mr. Bunting. He remained in that position until November 30, 1916. Upon the death of Mr. Bunting, on May 1, 1916, he became one of the executors of the estate, and manager of the Bunting Iron Works.

Mr. Borst has always been deeply interested in educational matters and has served on the school board in every district in which he has lived. He is one of the trustees of the Coalinga Union High School and the Coalinga Public Library—the same officers serve for the two institutions—and he is president of both boards. He is also a member of the board of town trustees



A. T. Borsh

of Coalinga, having been elected to that office in April, 1918. During the time he has been president of the school board the new high school building, costing about \$90,000, was planned and completed, and it is one of the finest and most modern school buildings in the county. The new public library was also built during this time.

Mr. Borst married Elizabeth Overacker, a native daughter, born in Alameda County and a member of a well-known family of the early fifties, being a daughter of Howard Overacker, who was a prominent farmer in Alameda County. Two children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Borst: Deborah, now the wife of Tilghman K. Junken of Coalinga; and Joseph, a student in the high school. The family attend the Presbyterian Church, although they are members of the Christian Church. Mr. Borst is a member of the Growlers Club, the Woodmen of the World, the Chamber of Commerce and the United Artisans; and he was a stockholder and director in the Bank of Coalinga, and also an organizer and director in the National Bank of Coalinga. When the three banks were consolidated as the First National Bank of Coalinga he was made a member of the directorate and still serves in that capacity. He is very solicitous for the future growth of Coalinga and the welfare of its citizens and always shows his willingness to do all he can to build up the city and enhance the comfort and pleasure of its people.

MILES O. HUMPHREYS.—A progressive and prominent California business man and rancher, who began life as a native son in Fresno County is Miles O. Humphreys, who was born at Wildflower on April 12, 1885, the son of John W. Humphreys, the well-known pioneer who is represented on another page of this book. He was the youngest of ten children, and his early life was spent on the Humphreys ranch near Tollhouse. He attended the public schools and was graduated from the Madera High School in 1906.

Pushing out into the commercial world, Mr. Humphreys entered the employ of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York, and for two years had his headquarters at Fresno; later he was made superintendent, and continued in charge of the Fresno office until 1915, when he resigned to engage in the general real estate and insurance business in the firm known as Humphreys Brothers.

During these years Mr. Humphreys was interested with his brothers, J. W. and Ray, in stock-raising on the old Humphreys ranch, having purchased adjoining lands and in so doing increased the area of their farm-lands to 1,400 acres. In 1917, M. O. and J. W. Humphreys bought their brother Ray's interest in the ranch and real estate business, and continued as Humphreys Brothers, M. O. being manager of the real estate and general insurance end of the enterprise; and as both have grown in volume, he is a very busy man.

In partnership with his brother, J. W. Humphreys, Miles owns 154 acres on the State Highway seven miles northwest of Fresno, which is highly improved. Forty acres make up a bearing peach orchard and sixty acres a bearing muscat vineyard. He also has twenty acres in alfalfa and thirty acres given over to a fig orchard. He is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., the California Associated Raisin Company, and the California Alfalfa Growers Association.

At Fresno, on May 16, 1907, Mr. Humphreys was married to Miss Zella M. Melvin, who was born in Fresno, the daughter of I. A. Melvin, a pioneer and successful stockman, who died in 1917 at the age of eighty-four. She was a graduate of the Fresno high school and has thus been able to give better attention to the education of her two sons, Miles O., Jr., and Faris Melvin.

When the commission was organized to plan for the future growth, need and beauty of Fresno, Mr. Humphreys was appointed by Mayor Snow, a member of the commission and was made chairman; and how well he and his colleagues served is a matter of public record. In national political affairs, Mr. Humphreys acts with the Republicans, but he belongs to that ever-

increasing number of good citizens who believe that in local affairs there should be no partisanship.

Mr. and Mrs. Humphreys are members of the First Presbyterian Church. For many years also he has been and is an active member of the Y. M. C. A., and he also belongs to Manzanita Camp, W. O. W., and to the Commercial Club.

CAMILLO R. LEONI.—A rancher and dairyman who is to be depended upon is Camillo R. Leoni, one of the stockholders in the First National Bank at Riverdale and a leader among the Swiss-Americans in Southern Fresno County. He was born at Cerentino, Canton Ticino, Switzerland, on November 8, 1874, the son of John and Madaline (Pedrazzi) Leoni, who had a family of eight children, among whom Camillo was the fourth in the order of birth. The elder Leoni owned land and was a farmer and dairyman. An older brother, James, came to America and California first, and the year after, in 1888, Camillo followed, arriving in Marin County when he was only fourteen years of age. He worked for a year on the dairy ranches there, and then came to Fresno County.

At first he engaged to work out by the month on J. W. Downing's ranch of 320 acres, doing dairying and general farm work, later taking up with other employers, among them being "Uncle" Job Malsbury, and R. S. Gobby and S. Zanolini when they ran the John's ranch west of Riverdale, where Lanare now stands. Having saved his earnings for five years, he made his first payment on his first purchase of 160 acres, where he has lived ever since, milking from thirty to sixty cows and prospering.

When Mr. Leoni first bought his land and settled here, there were no levies and a great flood put all his buildings under water. His alfalfa was submerged, and he was compelled to take his family away in order to save them from drowning. He recalls also the Texas fever and the other cattle plagues, against which he has persisted and won out, so that now he is a well-to-do and influential man.

At Fresno Mr. Leoni was married to Miss Zelina Leoni, a native of the same canton in Switzerland; by whom he has had four children—Lillian, Henry, Milo and Roy. Mr. Leoni owns 160 acres two miles east, and a half mile south of Burrel, and 100 acres three-fourths of a mile west of that town. He is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Riverdale, which he helped to organize.

A. B. PETERS.—Among the wide-awake representatives of Fresno is A. B. Peters, distinguished for having laid out, at the corner of California Avenue and Cherry Street, additions to the city, thus doing much to build up the community, and for still taking a live interest in its growth and development. He came to Fresno in the early eighties, and he has seen the city expand so that now it is the pride of the Golden State.

He was born in Ezeroum, Asia Minor, on October 22, 1862, the son of P. K. Peters, who was born at Harpoot, where he became a merchant and farmer. Having married, he came to Philadelphia in 1877 with his family, sons-in-law and nieces, and after two years there moved to Milburytown, Mass. Various members of the family worked in the cotton mills, while Mr. Peters was engaged in the manufacture of carpets, and ran a factory. He did not like the narrow, confined life of the city, however, and wanted to engage in farming; so he came to California alone in the spring of 1882, traveled from San Francisco to Fresno, and then to Los Angeles, and thence back East. He liked it so well that he came back with his wife, and two sons; and after a month in Los Angeles, they decided to come to Fresno County, the prices for land being more favorable here. He bought forty acres in the Fresno Colony, paying ninety dollars an acre, making the purchase of G. G. Briggs, reserving twenty acres for himself and son A. B. Peters, and twenty acres for the other son Alex; and these parcels he improved, setting out vines and orchards. He built up a good ranch and made it his home



Mr & Mrs Chas E. Williams

until he died on March 1, 1904. The mother died on August 9, 1897. They had five children, all still living.

A. B. Peters is the youngest in the family, yet he went to work at once in Philadelphia soon after his arrival there, being employed in a cigar store; while in Massachusetts he worked in the cotton mills. Arriving in Fresno in 1882, he worked in a cannery, continuing in that business for two and a half years, when he went to work upon a ranch. Later he leased ranches and ran them. He then started in business and ran a packing house; and after that he was in a planing mill enterprise.

He had continued farming all this while, and after his father died, he bought his father's interest in the twenty-acre ranch, having long been interested in it financially. He laid out Peters Second, Third and Fourth additions, each time subdividing five acres, and he still owns five acres and five lots. He himself planted all the trees on the avenue, and further beautified the tract.

At Fresno Mr. Peters was married to Miss Beatrice Hekimian, by whom he has had three children—Hermia, Edward and Roxie. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church, Mr. Peters having been one of the church's trustees for years.

CHARLES ELLIOTT WILLIAMS.—The adage that "nothing succeeds like success" applies in the accomplishments of Charles Elliott Williams, a prosperous rancher of Fresno County. He was born at Crestline, Richland County, Ohio, October 23, 1854, a son of Benjamin and Catherine (Tyler) Williams, both of whom were natives of New York State, born on the Hudson and in Ithaca, respectively. They were farmers in Ohio, as also in Illinois, to which state the family removed in 1863, finally settling in Flat Rock, Crawford County, where both parents died. The Williams family is traced back to England, while the Tylers are an old New York State family, members of which were in the Battle of Minnesink.

Charles Elliott Williams is the third in a family of six children, and was educated in the public schools of Crawford County, Ill. When he was twenty-one years of age he bought a farm near Flat Rock, where he followed farming until he came to California.

On October 13, 1887, Mr. Williams was united in marriage with Miss Emma E. Fry, a native of Henry County, Ind., the ceremony being solemnized at Allison Prairie, Lawrence County, Ill. Miss Fry was the daughter of Maurice and Elizabeth (Bible) Fry, natives of Virginia who were early settlers of Henry County, Ind., and later pioneers of Allison Prairie, Ill. On her maternal side Mrs. Williams traces her ancestors back to Casper Branner, who settled in the Shenandoah Valley, Va., in 1750. In 1888, Mr. and Mrs. Williams located on Allison Prairie, Ill., where he became an extensive and successful farmer, operating over 700 acres of land. Seven children were born to them: Eva C., who is now Mrs. Calvert; Jennie May, who died when six years of age; Raymond L., in the United States Army, in a regiment of engineers, serving over seas; Everett M., assisting his father; Myrtle J., now Mrs. Gladden; and Hazel F. and Lester E., who are both at home.

On January 12, 1912, Mr. Williams and his family came to California, where he engaged in the mercantile business in Fresno, from February to October of that year, when he sold out to engage in farming, horticulture and viticulture on a twenty-acre tract eleven miles east of town on Ventura Avenue, in the Grandville district. Here he set out a family orchard and a vineyard of Thompson seedless raisin grapes, and has since devoted his time to the development of the tract. Mr. Williams is a loyal supporter of the public school system, as he is also of other institutions and organizations for the upbuilding of the county. He is a Democrat in politics, though not a radical, since in local matters he votes for the men best qualified for office.

HARRY EDWARD SPENCE.—Born near Minneapolis, Ottawa County, Kans., February 23, 1871. Harry E. Spence came to California with his parents, Andrew and Caroline (Bell) Spence, when twelve years of age. They resided at Duarte, Los Angeles County, until 1888, when they moved to Burroughs Valley, Fresno County. He finished his education at Healdsburg College and then devoted his time to farming and stock-raising.

At Fresno, in 1898, Harry Spence married Miss Lutie Gilmer, who was born near Porterville, Cal., and whose father was Robert Gilmer, a native of Kentucky who crossed the plains to California in the fifties. After mining a few years he returned to Iowa, and there married Mary A Dye, a native of that state. He served over three years in an Iowa regiment in the Civil War as a second lieutenant. In 1873 they settled at Porterville, Cal., and afterwards at Selma, but in 1879 they moved to Burroughs Valley where Mr. Gilmer improved a ranch and set out one of the first orchards in the valley. He died here and is survived by his widow. Mrs. Spence is next to the youngest of their seven children and was educated in the public schools of the valley.

Harry Spence was successful as a farmer and became owner of 400 acres in the heart of Burroughs Valley. For many years he also followed teaming to the mills in the Sierras and while thus engaged took a heavy cold through exposure, which resulted in his death, February 27, 1911. Since his death Mrs. Spence has continued stock-raising, being assisted in the management of the ranch by Mr. Spence's brother, Duley Spence; they have extended their holdings, also owning ranches in Watts and Sycamore valleys. For many years they have engaged in the mercantile business in a store built on their ranch, where Mrs. Spence served as postmaster from 1899 until 1917, when she resigned.

Mr. and Mrs. Spence had four children: Vivian, Patti, Harry Gilmer, and Edward Sylvester. Mr. Spence served as school trustee, as well as Justice of the Peace. He was a prominent man and yielded a wide influence for good. Mrs. Spence performs her civic duties under the standard of the Republican party.

WILLIAM E. BROWN.—An oil man who has steadily worked his way up until he now holds a responsible position with the Union Oil Company, is William E. Brown, who was born at Washburn, Maine, on December 30, 1866, the son of Simon Brown, who was born in Massachusetts and descended from a family traceable back to the first settlers of Mayflower stock. Simon Brown was in the Civil War, a member of the Eighth Maine Regiment, and he was wounded by the bursting of a shell. Having farmed in Maine he later removed to Menominee County, Mich., where he engaged in lumbering; and then he went back to Maine. He married Harriet Hall, a native of Maine and a member of an old Massachusetts family, who also traces her ancestry back to the Mayflower. Mr. and Mrs. Brown came to California in 1910 to make their home with their son, W. E., at Coalinga. They were the parents of three girls and a son, among whom William is the third oldest.

He was brought up in Maine, attended the public schools there and then went to work on a farm, continuing at home until he was twenty-one. At that time he went to Michigan and spent about six years working in the lumber camps where he became a foreman; and he also engaged in charcoal burning. Then he moved back to Maine, and later went west to Indiana, where he began to learn the oil business, commencing at the Geneva field, in 1893, as a pumper. He worked up to driller, and then took drilling contracts. About 1900 he moved to Beaver Dam, Ohio, and there worked as foreman in the Lima oil field. He got to be more and more interested in oil fields and wells and in 1906 went to Illinois, attracted by the Casey oil district and the Bridgeport district, where he was a contract driller.

In 1910 Mr. Brown came to California and after a brief stay in Los Angeles, he located at Bakersfield and went with the Claremont Oil Com-



R. J. Perez.

pany, in Kern River field, owned by the Union Oil Company. He became a district foreman and held that post until December 1, 1911, when he was transferred to the Clairmont lease at Coalinga, where he was made superintendent. He is now district foreman of the Union Oil Company's holdings in the Coalinga district, which includes Clairmont, Section 24, and also of the Iredell, Section 13, and the Union, Section 8.

At Ishpeming, Mich., on January 3, 1901, Mr. Brown was married to Miss Emma Andrews, a native of Calumet, Mich., and the daughter of Joseph Andrews, who was born in England and came as a child to Wisconsin. In the southern part of that state he was brought up as a miner, and later he removed to Calumet. He died at Mrs. Brown's at Bridgeport. His wife was Sarah Lane, a native of England before her marriage, and she died at Quinnesec, Mich., the mother of four children, Mrs. Brown being the oldest. She was educated in the Iron Mountain, Mich., schools, and was engaged in teaching in Menominee County, Mich., until her marriage. Two children—Elva and Kenneth, are the pride of the Brown home, and both are attending the Coalinga Union high school,—Elva in the class of 1920. Mr. Brown was made a Mason in Bridgeport Lodge, No. 386, F. & A. M., and he is still a member there. He belongs to the Growler's Club of Coalinga.

RUDOLPH J. PEREZ.—A native son of California and descendant of a pioneer family of the state, Rudolph J. Perez was born in Oakdale, Stanislaus County, July 21, 1881. His father, Joseph E. Perez, was also a native Californian, a son of one of the old pioneer families in the state. His birth took place in Mariposa; and he later followed the trade of blacksmith in San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties. When he located in Fresno Mr. Perez ran a shop at the corner of Fresno and K Streets, in partnership with a Mr. White. This partnership was dissolved in 1889, and in 1890 Mr. Perez located in Fowler and ran a shop there under the firm name of Perez & Post. He was one of the first men to erect a home on the west side in Fresno, first building at the corner of Sacramento and E Streets; later he built a home on F Street near Stanislaus. His death occurred on December 17, 1892. All his life a progressive and enterprising citizen, he early saw a great future for Fresno and readily lent his help toward that end. His wife was Patricia Sanches, also born in Mariposa, Cal., and they were the parents of the following children: Mrs. George E. Churcher, Peter J., Mrs. Ruth Howard of Sonora, Tuolumne County, and Rudolph J. The mother's death occurred in Fresno, October 28, 1904.

Rudolph J. Perez was a boy of seven years when his parents settled in Fresno, in 1888. He attended the public schools here and later became a chef in the hotels and cafes of Fresno. In 1903 he learned the trade of plumber with the firm of Donohue-Emmons Company, and in 1909 formed a partnership with V. J. Cox, under the firm name of Cox & Perez Plumbing Shop, with quarters at 2127 Kern Street. He sold out to Cox in 1911, and formed a partnership with J. W. Murray under the firm name of Murray & Perez, with a shop at 1225 I Street. The partnership continued until 1915, and since that date Mr. Perez has engaged in business alone at 1434 F Street, and has earned the title of "Honest Plumber" throughout the city and county. He is a member of the Fresno local and the State Association of Master Plumbers of California, and shows his interest by attending the conventions each year.

The marriage of Mr. Perez united him with Matilda Rogers, a native of Fresno County, and two children were born to them, Audrey and Dorothy. The mother passed away on September 8, 1910. Mr. Perez has been active in fraternal circles in Fresno, and is a member of the Eagles. He is a member of the Merchants' Association and can always be found in the front ranks when the advancement of his town is the issue.

BENJAMIN W. KILBY.—An optimistic native son is Benjamin W. Kilby, is postmaster of Helm and the managing partner in the well-known firm of Eaton & Kilby, proprietors of the general merchandise store called "The Helm Store;" and the partners are Mrs. Hattie A. Eaton, widow of the late Fred F. Eaton, and Mr. Kilby.

The latter came here as a clerk for Mr. Eaton, when that pioneer also ran a general merchandise store at Burrell; and when Mr. Eaton died on November 30, 1916, Mr. Kilby lost the personal association of one of the ablest and most popular business men in the county. Helm is located on the Hanford and Summit Lake Railway, which runs from Hanford to Kerman, having been built through here in 1912; and it is commonly known as the Hardwick-Ingle branch of the Southern Pacific.

Mr. Kilby was born at Coalinga on March 13, 1887, the son of William J. Kilby of the real estate and insurance firm of W. J. Kilby and Son of Coalinga. W. J. Kilby went there in 1885; and he is a dealer in real estate in that place, and owns several houses there. Five children were born of the Kilby union, and all are still living. Mollie is the wife of G. M. Hughes, the oil-man at Coalinga; Benjamin W. is the subject of this interesting sketch; Trixie is the wife of C. N. Ayers, the machinist and garage-man of Coalinga; Colon is a sophomore at the university at Redlands; and Neta is a Red Cross nurse in the hospital at San Diego. Mrs. Kilby was Helen Murtiagh, a native of Ireland, and Benjamin's father was born at Freeport, Maine. Both parents are still living at Coalinga.

After working at different lines, Benjamin Kilby clerked for two years, and at the age of thirty was made a partner in the firm. He was married at Helm to Miss Pearl White, daughter of James White, and a granddaughter of Almond M. Bentley, the well-known pioneer. Two children blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Kilby—Muriel and Beatrice.

In December, 1914, Mr. Kilby received an appointment as postmaster of Helm, and ever since he has held that office to the satisfaction of all his fellow-citizens. He is also serving as public weighmaster. He supports, as does his good wife, every desirable movement for the advancement of local interests. Besides, he is actively interested in the Pine Flat conservation project, which is likely to prove of much importance as the years go by.

Mr. Kilby was made a Mason at Kerman, and there, as throughout the county, he numbers many loyal friends. The postoffice at Helm is now under the Civil Service and has been much improved as to its serviceability since Mr. Kilby took charge.

JOHN J. STRATTON.—A fine fellow whose many friends are glad to see that he is again building up a satisfactory business despite previous reverses, is J. J. Stratton, the viticulturist and chicken fancier who once developed by hard work in the East a splendid celery farm and vegetable garden but had to sell out and come West on account of his wife's health. This was in 1902, and ever since he has been building and broadening as all who know his capacity would expect him to do.

He was born at New Baltimore, Stark County, Ohio, on July 27, 1869, the son of Elias Stratton, who was a farmer there and served in the 186th Ohio Regiment during the Civil War. He married Catherine Boston, a native of Ohio; and both are dead. Three children were born of this union, and all are living. Of these our subject is the second oldest and the only one in California.

Brought up in Ohio, the lad played and worked on the farm, and at the same time attended the public schools. He learned to be a farmer and a carpenter; and when he was ready for the responsibilities of life, he married Miss Nora Matti, a native of Randolph, Portage County, Ohio. Mr. Stratton followed farming, running his father's farm for a time and later specializing in celery on land of his own. He put in five thousand feet of tile under his five acres, and raised big crops of celery.

In 1902, Mr. and Mrs. Stratton made a visit to California, then returned to Ohio. In 1906, on account of failing health of Mrs. Stratton, they sold out and started for California, stopping for two months at Colorado Springs. Disappointment with the results led him to California; and in the fall of 1906 he settled in Fresno County, near Fowler, where Mrs. Stratton died on November 15. He was in the employ of William Ruffert for eighteen months; and meantime, in 1908, he bought this place and began the necessary improvements.

He embarked in the poultry business in 1909, purchasing White Leghorns and installing incubators and brooders, and raising chickens and gathering eggs. He set out a fine eucalyptus grove by the house and with a variety of vines, made a nice vineyard. He has twenty acres on White's Bridge Road and Hughes Avenue, and his poultry yard now has about 1,000 hens. He belongs to and vigorously supports the California Associated Raisin Company.

One child survived Mrs. Stratton—Piccola by name, until March 15, 1919, when she died. In national politics a Republican, Mr. Stratton takes keen pleasure in assisting to promote all worthy local movements, regardless of party lines.

ABRAM OLSON.—An interesting instance of an enterprising man who, having made a great success in one field, had the foresight necessary to see the still greater opportunities in another, is afforded in the life-story of Abram Olson, the well-known contractor and builder of Fresno, who bought and improved certain ranch property, and is now one of the foremost viticulturists of the vicinity. He was born in Daleslan, Sweden, in April, 1863, the son of a prosperous farmer, and was reared on a farm, while he attended the grammar schools in Sweden. Later, pushing out for himself according to the custom of his country which encourages a lad early to get upon his feet, he became an expert sawyer and then a master carpenter especially familiar with lumber; and after that, wishing to vary his experience, he took to the lakes, and for three years was a sailor.

When he was twenty-two years of age, Mr. Olson crossed the ocean and pushed west to South Dakota, where he went out on a farm at Elk Point. At the first opportunity, however—for he found agricultural conditions here very different from those in Sweden—he took up carpentry and building, and so resumed his trade. His characteristic Old World thoroughness contributed much to make him a very acceptable workman, and it was not long before he had established himself in the big city of St. Paul. His clever and satisfactory work, in fact, made him in demand by a power elevator company, and he had all and more than he could do helping to construct elevators. During these years he had a forty-acre farm in South Dakota, but he sold it to locate a homestead of 160 acres thirty-five miles east of Bismarck, which he improved and managed.

In the fall of 1912, Mr. Olson sold that property and located in Fresno. He took up contracting and building, and erected several bungalows for Messrs. Dodds & Orr. The next year he bought the twenty acres on Ventura Avenue soon so well identified with his name, eleven miles east of Fresno, and leveled and improved the land, put up a residence and other out-buildings, and so made it one of the really desirable ranches of the county. It is under the Fancher Creek ditch, and therefore has plenty of water, and this has proven a consideration of the first importance. He set out a fine vineyard of carefully-selected Thompson seedless and emperor grapes, and also planted figs and with each he had phenomenal success. After improving this ranch, he sold it in June, 1918, and now owns eleven acres in Roeding Villa Colonies where he resides with his family, devoting his land to viticulture. For years he has been one of the enthusiastic and hard-working members of the California Associated Raisin Company.

During his pleasant days in South Dakota, Mr. Olson was married to Miss Nellie Johnson, a native of South Dakota, and the daughter of Peter

Johnson, one of the most honored pioneers of that great commonwealth. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Olson, and each has reflected the creditable qualities of their parents. Bernice is Mrs. McFarland of Fresno; Milford was in the United States Navy and now in the employ of the Newman Vineyard; and there are Garfield who was in the United States Army, First Army Mobile Veterinary Hospital No. 1. He served overseas, stationed at Verdun, serving until September 12, 1919, when he was mustered out at San Francisco and returned home; Electa, Madeleine and Floyd. Mr. Olson is a Lutheran while his wife was raised a Baptist and he carries on his civic work under the banners of the Republican party, while lending the most helpful support to all local movements for community improvement.

G. A. WOLFE.—One of the hustling business men of the City of Fresno is represented in the person of G. A. Wolfe, a member of the Giffen-Wolfe Agency, authorized dealers for the universal car—the Ford, in this district.

Mr. Wolfe is a native of the Buckeye State. He was born at Cleveland on April 24, 1885, the son of G. W. and Marie E. (Burch) Wolfe, both now being deceased.

The family of G. W. Wolfe moved from Cleveland to Chicago, when their son was but a child, and it was in the public schools of the "Windy City" that he received his schooling. After his schooldays were ended, young Wolfe came West to California, and in 1903 was in the employ of the Farmers National Bank of Fresno, where he held a clerkship for a year.

His next venture was in the real estate and insurance business with F. M. Chittenden, and for two years he carried on a real estate and insurance business with considerable success.

Later, Mr. Wolfe was assistant manager of the Operating Department of the California Associated Raisin Company, and still later, was in charge of their Insurance Department.

On August 6, 1915, Mr. Wolfe engaged in business under the firm name of Madison and Wolfe, general insurance, which was formerly owned by the F. M. Chittenden Company, and under his masterful guidance, their business became the largest in Central California. Mr. Madison finally purchased his partner's interest, and thereafter Mr. Wolfe formed the partnership with Wylie M. Giffen, as mentioned above.

They give employment to about sixty men, and thereby facilitate the sale of the Ford automobile and Fordson Tractor.

G. A. Wolfe was united in marriage with Miss Johanna M. Johnson on February 21, 1914. They have a daughter, Helen Marie Wolfe. The family attend the First Methodist Church. Mr. Wolfe is a prime member in all movements for the upbuilding of his adopted county, where he is respected and esteemed by all with whom he has business or social relations.

JAMES HENRY STRICKLIN.—An enterprising and successful farmer and dairyman who has an agreeable family that unite in extending a true western hospitality, is James Henry Stricklin, who was born in Oregon City, Ore., on April 25, 1864, the son of William Stricklin, a native of Virginia, in which state he was born in 1804. He moved to Iowa and there married Elizabeth Earnest, who was born at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. In 1852 he crossed the great plains with ox teams and wagons; and passing through the Indian country, they located in Clackamas County, near Oregon City. There he took up 640 acres of land—what was allowed for man and wife—improved it and lived on it till 1874; when he sold out and moved to Eastern Oregon, settling near The Dalles, in Moscow County. He became a stockman, and died there, in 1879. At the same place his good wife passed away in 1891, the mother of nine children, only four of whom are living.

James Henry, the third youngest, when he was ten years of age accompanied his family to The Dalles, and this migration had much to do with his limited book education. He had to travel seven miles to school, going on



H. G. Andersson



Inez L. Anderson

horseback, and so instead he early set to work on the farm. He continued at home until he was nineteen, and then he went out to work, in order to help his mother bring up the rest of the family.

At Canon City, in Grant County, in 1899, Mr. Stricklin married Miss Flora Cutting, a native of Oregon City; and after that they settled on a farm, where he bought a claim. He homesteaded 160 acres near Canon City and went in for stock-raising; and he used his father's old brand, an X. In 1905 he came to Laton, Cal., and bought forty acres of the Laguna tract for fifty dollars per acre; he improved it for alfalfa and a fruit orchard, planted peaches and six years later sold it for \$150 an acre.

He located on his present place in 1911, buying 158 acres; on account of dry years he let some of it go back so that now he has about seventy acres. He built a residence, set out an orchard and leveled and checked the land for alfalfa. He devotes most of the land to the growing of this desirable fodder, and he carries on successfully a very sanitary, up-to-date dairy. He also leases land, and raises grain.

Three children have blessed the home life of Mr. and Mrs. Stricklin. Dorothy is the oldest; and there are Elsie and Alfred, and all are at home. Mr. Stricklin belongs to the Modern Woodmen of America. In national politics he belongs to the Democratic party, and he is first, last and all the time an American.

HARVEY G. ANDERSON.—Coming to California in the middle sixties, Harvey G. Anderson has since then been modestly but steadily endeavoring to make this world a better place to live in.

Mr. Anderson was born at Dubuque, Iowa, on October 10, 1863, the son of William H. Anderson, a native of Iowa, and a grandson of William Anderson, who was born in Alabama, and became a pioneer in Iowa. William H. Anderson grew up there a farmer, and was married in that state to Miss Jane McBride, the daughter of William McBride, who was born in Scotland, and also became a pioneer of Iowa. Mr. Anderson brought his wife and two children across the plains in 1865, by means of horses and wagons, a part of a large train of forty-seven vehicles, and they took all the summer to make the journey. He settled at Stockton and there engaged in farming, then he bought land near Waterloo, and he is still residing there, hale and hearty, daily superintending his ranch, although at the advanced age of eighty-two years. Mrs. Anderson died in 1880, the mother of two children, of whom our subject is the older. Alice is now Mrs. William Thrush and lives on the old home ranch.

Harvey Anderson was brought up on a farm and educated at the public schools. From a young man, however, he was interested in oil, and he was impelled by a great desire to get to the oil-fields; so, about 1880, when he was seventeen, he went to Pennsylvania, and at Bradford, an oil center, he learned the oil business. Then he went to Bowling Green, Ohio, and after four years returned to California when the development in oil was just beginning in the Los Angeles field.

Reaching Santa Paula and finding that everything was quiet in the oil-fields, he turned to drilling water wells, and as a contractor he operated with great success in Kern, Tulare and Santa Barbara counties. He had a shop in Tulare where he manufactured stove-pipe casing used in casing the water-wells, and he met with such success that he made that town his headquarters for four years. He was ready, therefore, to take advantage of the opening of the Kern River oil-fields, and going in there early, contracted to drill. He was given an important contract by the 33 Oil Company, and drilled for them their second well in the Kern River field.

After a year, Mr. Anderson joined others, bought 120 acres, and striking oil, they put down seven wells. He superintended these until the tract was sold, and in 1905 he came to Coalinga as superintendent of this same prop-

erty, for the Esperanza Oil Company. At that time they had only three wells, but he continued to drill and he put down thirteen more. About 1913, the company was bought by the General Petroleum Company, and he continued as superintendent. The average depth of the wells is from 1,200 to 1,700 feet, and the lease is 170 acres. Aside from this responsibility, Mr. Anderson has another, that of the superintendency of the Ophir Oil Company, which has two producing wells; the superintendency of the Ozark Oil Company, which has five wells, and the superintendency of the Coalinga National Oil Company and the Minoru Oil Company. He was interested in and was one of the organizers of the Pilot Oil Company, in which he is a vice-president and a director. They have sixty acres in Sec. 12-20-14, where seven wells are producing. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Chamber of Mining and Oil in Los Angeles, and is a director in the First National Bank of Coalinga. He is an organizer and director in the Esmeralda Mining Company which owns and operates a quicksilver mine adjoining the New Idra. The company has a mountain of cinnabar ore and has a plant equipped with rock-crusher, retorts and condensers, with a capacity of 100 tons.

On May 15, 1891, at Tulare, Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Inez Mull, a native of Arkansas, and they have had one child, Neal Anderson, who is a graduate of St. Mary's Academy, Oakland, and who then attended Santa Clara College, and afterwards learned the oil business under his father. He was in charge of the Information Bureau of the San Joaquin Valley exhibit, Panama Pacific Exposition, San Francisco, in 1915. He is now superintendent of the Petroleum Company at Fullerton. He is of a mechanical turn and is the inventor of a gasoline extractor of casing-head gas, which, after condensing the gasoline, saves the remaining gas that formerly went to waste.

Mrs. Anderson is the daughter of Martin and Cornelia (Galloway) Mull, natives of Tennessee and South Carolina, respectively. They removed to Jacksonport, Ark. Martin Mull served in the Civil War as captain of the Jackson Guards from Batesville, Ark., and after the war was engaged as a wholesale merchant until his death. His widow survived him two years. Mrs. Anderson was reared in a cultured environment and is greatly interested in civic and club work. In 1910 she organized the Women's Welcome Club of Coalinga (a Federation club), having been its president for five years. She is also an active member of the Coalinga Women's Club and as delegate attended the Biennial of the Federation of Women's Clubs in San Francisco in 1911. Mrs. Anderson was also district chairman of Federation Extension of the San Joaquin Valley District for two years as well as state chairman of Federation Extension and Emblem for a period of two years. She is now state chairman of Emblem and second vice-president of the San Joaquin Valley District of the California Federation of Women's Clubs. She is also a member of Eschscholtzia Chapter, Order of Eastern Star, Coalinga.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are both interested in the cause of education, each having served as trustee of Alpha school district. They have also been active in war relief work and the different war and allied drives. It is through her enthusiastic work in the Red Cross that Mrs. Anderson is best known, having given her entire time during the World War. She is chairman of the Military Relief of the Coalinga Chapter of American Red Cross, and has been since its organization, as well as a member of its executive board, and to this for months she gave all of her time. She also organized Community-Sings, where the people met and sang patriotic songs on the streets of Coalinga.

Fraternally, Mr. Anderson is a member of the Tulare Lodge of I. O. O. F. He was made a Mason in Tulare Lodge, F. & A. M., and is a member of Coalinga Chapter of the Royal Arch Masons, and also is a member of Bakersfield Lodge No. 266, B. P. O. Elks, as well as the Coalinga Growlers Club. Kind-hearted and generous, Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are always ready to help others and take great pleasure in dispensing the old-time Californian hospitality.

F. K. POMEROY, M. D.—The rapidly increasing population of Fresno County, together with its progress in all lines of industry and productiveness, has attracted men of education and professional brilliance to the city and county. This rising generation of specialists are building up their life work in keeping with the progression of their environment. With the most modern discoveries of science to aid them, they are in the vanguard of human achievement and as such should be given their meed of praise and encouragement. Among those in Fresno County, Dr. F. K. Pomeroy takes rank as one for whom a future of exceeding promise is assured. Born in Oswego, Ore., December 24, 1885, F. K. Pomeroy received his preliminary education in the public schools of that city. From there he moved to Palo Alto, Santa Clara County, Cal., in 1900, graduated from the Palo Alto high school, then took a four-year course at Stanford University, graduating in 1911, with the degree of A. B., attended Medical School at Stanford in 1911 and 1912, and the last named year went direct to the Columbia University, New York, and there finished a year's course, graduating in 1914, with the degree of M. D. For two and one-half years thereafter he was on the staff of the New York Post Graduate Hospital, after completing internship was resident physician on Medical Division of that institution.

Dr. Pomeroy opened his offices in the Rowell Building, Fresno, in July, 1917. He specializes in internal medicine. With his entire mature life spent in study to fit himself for his profession, Dr. Pomeroy is an authority in his branch of medical work, and his name is rapidly becoming known as one of the rising specialists of Fresno.

Dr. Pomeroy was married in Fresno, March 7, 1918, to Miss Edith Hayden, an only child and daughter of Dr. T. M. Hayden of Fresno.

Dr. Pomeroy enlisted at San Francisco in July, 1918, for service during the great World War, was assigned to the Medical Department of Base Hospital at Camp Kearney, with rank of First Lieutenant, and served as ward surgeon there during the flu epidemic. He left for France on November 6, 1918, landed at Le Havre November 22, and was assigned to Base Hospital No. 66 at Neufchateau, served continuously until he landed in New York July 5, 1919. He was honorably discharged at Camp Dix, N. J., on July 8, and reached San Francisco the 13th. Upon his return to Fresno in August, 1919, he resumed his practice and intends making Fresno his home and the center of his professional activities.

J. A. GILLESPIE, M.D.—How much the happy and prosperous Californians of the last decade or two owe for their safety, advancement and general welfare to those late settlers of exceptional foresight and enterprise who made straight the earlier paths and placed here and there along the way such institutions as were necessary to conserve health, protect life and supply comfort and relief, is well illustrated in the successful career of Dr. J. A. Gillespie, who came to Kingsburg in 1908 and nine years later erected here the Kingsburg Sanitarium.

Born at St. Clairsville, Belmont County, Ohio, fifteen miles from Wheeling, on July 9, 1861, Dr. Gillespie was the grandson of Dr. William Anderson, a physician at Kimbolton, Guernsey County, where he practiced for forty years and died in 1881 at the age of seventy-four. The father was James Gillespie, a farmer, and a native of Ohio, who married Miss Clara Anderson, who was also born in that state. They came to Iowa in 1881, and settled at Chariton, where Mr. Gillespie became a well-to-do farmer and stockman. He was of good old Scotch-Irish blood, and the family supported vigorously the teaching and work of the Presbyterian Church. They were among the first settlers in Ohio, and could trace the family tree back to a great-great-grandfather, James Gillespie. Four brothers are citizens of New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Ohio.

Dr. J. A. Gillespie was twenty years old when he came with his parents to Iowa, having previously finished the courses at the St. Clairsville High

School. He taught for five years in Iowa, and while he grew up with his grandfather, the physician, he studied under him. In 1885 he matriculated in the medical department of the Drake University, at Des Moines, Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1888; and after his graduation, he was married at Des Moines to Miss Elizabeth Huggins, of Iowa, then eighteen years old. Three children have blessed their union: Paul is in the United States Navy; William Lynn is in the eighth grade; and Lois is a teacher in Kingsburg.

About 1906 Dr. and Mrs. Gillespie came to California, and two years later they were fortunate in discovering Kingsburg as the most promising field for their work. Having graduated on April 2, 1895, from the Chicago College of Physicians and Surgeons, the Doctor was splendidly equipped for the responsible undertaking of a new sanitarium for the community; and he kept abreast of the times and present-day demands, when he built an ornamental, substantial and very practical edifice of stucco 100x35 feet in size. It is furnished throughout in the most up-to-date fashion, and has a capacity of ten beds. Altogether, the Gillespie Sanitarium is a modern institution of which Fresno County as well as Kingsburg may well be proud.

FORD F. KERR.—As proprietor of the Fresno Rug Manufacturing Company, Ford F. Kerr has won a place in the ranks of the enterprising business men of Fresno and his successful and growing business tells its own story. Born in Ripley, Brown County, Ohio, October 22, 1885, he was reared and educated in that locality until 1901, when he came west, remaining in Oklahoma a short time and then continued the journey to California, arriving in Redlands in 1902. Going to Pasadena soon after his arrival, he entered the employ of the Pasadena Rug Works, and also worked in the Pasadena Upholstering Company's plant. In 1906 he went to Alameda, and there worked for the Alameda Rug Works. Locating in Berkeley, in 1909, he established the Dwight Way Rug Works in that city, built up a good business, and sold out in 1912.

After leaving his Berkeley establishment, that same year Mr. Kerr came to Fresno and established his present business, on G Street. As the rapid growth of the business demanded, he made extensive improvements in his factory and now employs thirty hands at the Fresno plant and uses four automobiles for delivery purposes, and, besides his local work, does a large mail order business, his field of operations including all of California, as well as customers in Arizona and Nevada. A comparatively new industry, the method of rug making is both unique and economical. Old carpets furnished by the customers are cleaned, sterilized, and cut up and rewoven into new carpets and rugs, all of which are reversible, both sides being alike. It takes but one week from the time the old carpet enters the factory to have it reappear a new rug. Besides the manufacturing of rugs and carpets, a department of the factory is devoted to cleaning and renovating like furnishings, and this concern is now one of the big industries of Fresno, built up by businesslike methods and is modern in all its appointments. Mr. Kerr has done all the work for the Fresno Hotel, besides making and selling to them a large number of rugs; he also handles the work for the Hughes and the Sequoia Hotels. The excellence of the work done may be judged by the fact that Mr. Kerr won First Prize at the Fresno, Modesto and Bakersfield Fairs, in 1917, and in 1918 received the First Prize at the State Fair in Sacramento, also at the Fresno Fair.

On February 1, 1919, he established a rug works at 1922 Mission Street, San Francisco, where he employs forty to forty-five persons.

While devoting his time and energies to the building up of his business, Mr. Kerr has found time to enter into the fraternal and social life of the city, and to aid in the progress and upbuilding of his community. He is a member of Fresno Lodge No. 138, K. of P., and has attained to the highest degree in that order, that of D. O. K. K.



Ford F. Kern

PALMER A. FALLGREN, D.D.S.—A thoroughly trained and most conscientious operator in that field of surgical science—dentistry—in which America has long taken the lead, is Dr. P. A. Fallgren, the son of P. A. and Sophie Fallgren, natives of Sweden, who was born at Graceville, Bigstone County, Minn., on July 16, 1896, and there began his boyhood under conditions having the most beneficial effect on his later development along the Pacific. When eight years old, he came to California and Kingsburg, and here attended both the grammar and the high school, graduating from the latter with the Class of '15.

Taking a fancy to tennis, he made himself so proficient that he was the champion high school player; and playing singles, he won the championship of Southern California. He also went in for baseball, and was the first baseman of the Kingsburg Speed Boys, which captured the championship of the Raisin Belt League, linking Kingsburg, Selma, Del Rey, Sanger, Parlier and Reedley.

When he was ready for a professional career, Mr. Fallgren attended the College of Dentistry of the University of Southern California, and there he successfully pursued the regular four years' course. He was president of the Senior Class of '18, and belonged to the Alpha Theta Chapter of the Chi Psi Phi. Few men, perhaps, of his time were more popular among their college and university mates, all of which is readily understood in the case of Dr. Fallgren when one once is acquainted with his large-hearted, winsome personality, his liking for his fellow-men, and the possession of other characteristics sure to make every man like him. He joined the Dental Alumni fraternity of Southern California. He is a member of the San Joaquin Dental Society and the National Dental Association, and for a young man is already a leader in the ranks of his profession, exerting his influence in favor of the most scientific and rational dentistry, and therefore the most beneficent dental surgery.

When the war called for the intervention of America, the athletic young devotee of science volunteered his services and enlisting in August, 1918, became a first lieutenant at Camp Kearney. He joined the medical department and was a dental surgeon at the Camp Kearney Base Hospital.

Dr. Fallgren is a member of the Traver Lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M., and the Eastern Star, and no one is more welcome in those attractive circles.

JOHN E. TUTTLE.—The pioneer hardware merchant at Tranquillity, John E. Tuttle, is a native of the Wolverine State, born at Cheboygan, Mich., May 15, 1887, a son of J. E. and Sarah (Fitzpatrick) Tuttle. The father is a native of Canada, who emigrated to the United States, settling for a time in the state of Illinois, but later removed to Cheboygan, Mich., where he married Sarah Fitzpatrick, a native of Canada.

J. E. Tuttle was a saddle and harness-maker, but afterwards engaged in farming in addition to operating a harness shop. Both Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Tuttle, Sr., are still living at the old home town in Michigan. They were the parents of two children: John E. Tuttle, the subject of this review, and Mrs. A. A. Lang, who resides at Taft, Cal.

John E. Tuttle was reared in Cheboygan and attended the grammar and high school there, graduating from the latter school in 1906, after which he attended the Detroit Business University and when he completed his course in that excellent institution, Mr. Tuttle accepted a position with C. A. Klady, a Detroit public accountant with whom he remained one year. His next position was with a lumber company where he installed a set of books and had charge of the office for one year, until the company went out of business. His next position was with Tyndall and Jackson Company, but soon after going with them he became obsessed with a desire to seek his fortunes in the Great West, and in the fall of 1911, came to Los Banos, Cal., where he remained until March, 1912. In Los Banos Mr. Tuttle formed a partnership with his uncle, John A. Bell, under the firm name of Bell and

Tuttle, hardware merchants. In March, 1912, the firm opened a store at Tranquillity, Fresno County, and John E. Tuttle had charge. Subsequently, the firm dissolved partnership, Mr. Tuttle taking the store at Tranquillity, while his uncle, Mr. Bell, kept the business at Los Banos. The Tuttle Hardware Store at Tranquillity is the first exclusive hardware and stove store in the town. They carry a good assortment of general hardware and implements besides sheetmetal work, and have a line of auto accessories and a Goodyear service station.

In June, 1911, at Detroit, Mich., John E. Tuttle was united in marriage with Miss Isabelle Markham, a native of that state, and this happy union has been blessed with three children: Sarah, John and Arthur. Religiously, the Tuttle family are Episcopalians. Mr. Tuttle is a promising young business man who is making a splendid success of his enterprise at Tranquillity, and is highly esteemed in business and social circles for his sterling qualities.

In 1919 a bank was organized, known as The First National Bank of Tranquillity, of which Mr. Tuttle is vice-president and a director. The bank will occupy quarters in a new brick structure and will be modern in every way. Mr. Tuttle is erecting a modern brick building adjoining that of the bank where he will move his stock of goods when the building is completed.

WILBUR WILLIS GRIMES.—One of the most picturesque ranches in that section of Fresno County, near Sanger, and situated northeast of Center-ville, is the forty-acre place of Wilbur Willis Grimes, with its cosy rustic bungalow nestled in a bower of roses and hedged in by stately palms, with a background of orange trees laden with golden fruit. To live among such pleasant surroundings is a fitting reward for the years of effort spent in bringing the property to its present state of productiveness, thus aiding in the general upbuilding of Fresno County as a whole.

Wilbur Willis Grimes was born in Ringgold County, Iowa, August 13, 1869. His father, Charles K. Grimes, was a native of Indiana, and married there, to Miss Harriet Ballard, a native of Ohio, later going to Iowa, in 1854, and settling in Ringgold County in 1856, where he broke the virgin prairie with oxen. At that time the country was inhabited by Indians, mostly friendly ones, and the frontier cabin of the pioneers, though small, was the haven of refuge for all newcomers, who were welcome to stay until they had habitations of their own. After thirty-one years spent there, Mr. Grimes' health failed, and he took his family and a team of horses and traveled in a wagon over the country in search of a favorable climate. During the Civil War he was postmaster at Eugene, Ringgold County, and after his day's work was done, would shoulder the mailsack and walk twelve miles to the railroad. He was a member of the Home Militia, and served on the border of Missouri and Iowa ten days out of thirty, until he was mustered out of service at the close of the war. To this pioneer couple nine children were born, three of whom are living: Mrs. James T. Holt, of Van Nuys, Los Angeles County; Mrs. Iola Tapp, of Kingsburg; and Wilbur Willis, of this review. Mrs. A. R. Brown of Fowler died in 1913. The father passed away in 1904, aged seventy-six; the mother is still living.

With his father, Wilbur Willis Grimes made several trips to California before the family located here, looking for a permanent home, and it was not until 1891 that they decided to remain in Fresno County. During that year Wilbur Willis Grimes purchased his ranch of forty acres, which is a part of the original Hyde and Jackson tract; at the time of his purchase there was nothing to be seen growing on the land but weeds. Mr. Grimes began development work, and while waiting for his ranch to produce, engaged in various enterprises. He lived at Kingsburg for a time, and there was chosen as city marshal, and also served as deputy sheriff under Walter McSwain. He interested himself in business enterprises also, and during the 90's operated a butcher shop and bakery in connection, in Selma. In the meantime his agri-

cultural improvements began to bear fruit, and the raw land was brought up to a high state of cultivation, being devoted to lemons, oranges, figs, and Emperor grapes; these thorough improvements bear evidence of the energy and perseverance with which the owner is endowed, and are the best gage of a man's character. Mr. Grimes was a member of the first Raisin Growers' Association of the county, and he now belongs to the Fig Growers' Association.

In 1897, Mr. Grimes was united in marriage with Miss Josephine O. Curtis, born November 1, 1871, a daughter of William Curtis, who was one of the first settlers at Monterey, locating in 1847. He had the distinction of being the first Easterner appointed to the position of postmaster in Monterey, then the capital of California, and was a man of considerable business acumen and wealth. When news of the discovery of gold reached Monterey, Mr. Curtis knew it would bring an influx of people to California and that their one thought would be to dig for gold; he bought up all the shovels to be had on the market and when the miners arrived he sold at fancy prices, thereby making a clean-up with his corner on shovels. The marriage of Mr. Curtis, in 1854, united him with Lydia Jane Rucker, and she died twenty-three years later, the mother of four children: Emmet, of Berkeley, was connected with the Fresno Republican when the paper first started, and later was with San Francisco papers; Lydia B., Mrs. James A. Cosgrave of Angelos, Calaveras County; Eugene A., a rancher of Kingsburg; and Josephine O. Mrs. Grimes' parents having passed away, William Rucker, a bachelor uncle, was appointed guardian over the three younger children and took them to his home in Fresno City, a very small place at that time. He finally settled in Kingsburg, residing there until his death. The grandparents, Ambrose and Margaret (Atkinson) Rucker, came from Ohio to Iowa, and from there crossed the plains in 1853 with ox teams and settled in the Salinas Valley. The grandfather was a Methodist Episcopal preacher. Grandmother Rucker died in 1895, aged eighty-five. William Rucker died in Kingsburg, in 1913.

Mr. and Mrs. Grimes are the parents of five children, four of whom are living: Ted Lauren; Beatrice Evelyn; Harriet Blanche; and Lila Belle. Fraternally, both and Mr. and Mrs. Grimes have been prominent in Odd Fellow circles for many years. Mr. Grimes has been a member of the order since 1892, has passed all the chairs and belongs to the Ancient Odd Fellows. He drew out of Sanger Lodge, No. 375, to help organize Orangedale Lodge, No. 211, in 1888, of which he is now secretary. Mrs. Grimes is a Rebekah, having joined in 1888, and has passed all the chairs of the order twice. The family are members of the Christian Church, Mr. Grimes being one of three living charter members of the Sanger church. He was secretary of the Good Government League of Centerville and community, formed for the purpose of cleaning up Centerville from the saloon evil, there being two in the town. The clean-up process went through in quick time, making it quite different from Centerville when it was on the stage lines from Millerton to Visalia, the three oldest towns in the Valley.

C. E. HARMAN.—A native of the Hawkeye State, although he has been a resident of California for over forty years, C. E. Harman, the subject of this sketch, was born in Iowa on October 28, 1867, a son of C. and Sarah Harman who were both natives of Ohio, as will appear from a sketch of Caleb Harman elsewhere in this work. To Mr. and Mrs. Harman were born four children, three of whom are living: Lizzie became the wife of O. W. Rudolph, died in 1903 and left four children; Mrs. J. E. Shafer; Daisy; and C. E. The Harman family migrated to California in 1874 and in 1875 locating in Fresno County, near Parlier, where Mr. Harman found the climate, soil and other conditions to his liking and in 1876 he purchased a tract of land consisting of 120 acres, which at this early date was still in its virgin condition, and which was augmented by subsequent purchases to 480 acres. Possessing a keen foresight Mr. C. Harman predicted a great development for this section and set to work to improve his land. Through his persever-

ance and untiring efforts much was accomplished toward the development of this part of the county in the digging of water ways, for irrigation, the planting of vines for future vineyards and other useful industries, in all of which Mr. Harman was foremost in their promotion. After a useful life in the advancement of the agricultural interests of Fresno County, Mr. C. Harman passed away on June 2, 1915. His wife having preceded him to the Great Unknown, having passed away in February, 1907.

Mr. C. E. Harman, the subject of this sketch, after coming from Iowa with his parents in 1874, attended the grammar school of the Mendocino district, in Fresno County and afterwards supplemented his early education by attending the San Francisco Business College. He took a course in chemistry in Oakland, in a private chemical laboratory and afterwards spent several years in Oakland where he practiced his profession, and for years he was engaged in the mercantile business in Santa Barbara County. After the death of his father the estate, consisting of 480 acres of land near Parlier, was subdivided between the heirs and C. E. Harman now owns forty acres of the original place which has been in the family since 1876. His ranch is situated northeast of Parlier, and is devoted to raisin and table grapes.

On August 12, 1896, C. E. Harman was united in marriage with Miss Gertrude Schuyler, a daughter of W. H. and Anna Schuyler. She is a native daughter, having been born in Santa Clara County. Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Harman are the parents of two children: Violet and Irene. Mr. Harman is public-spirited and always interested in those movements that have as their aim the upbuilding of the best interests of the community and has proved his efficiency as a public officer by serving a number of years as a trustee of the school board of Lompoc High School district, Santa Barbara County.

Mr. C. E. Harman removed to Fresno in 1919 where he has built a very substantial bungalow which affords himself and family a very comfortable home at 2045 North Van Ness Avenue, where the well known Harman hospitality continues to be liberally dispensed and where good will and happiness so characteristic of the Harman fireside still prevail.

G. W. PFOST.—A hardworking, successful and highly-respected rancher who owns a well-improved, valuable ranch devoted to general or mixed farming, and who has been blessed with an equally industrious and highly-esteemed wife and family, all endeavoring, like himself, to lead a consistent Christian life, is G. W. Pfost, who made his first trip to California in the middle seventies, and now recalls, in his comfortable residence four miles southeast of Riverdale, stirring scenes of pioneer times such as the present generation finds it hard to believe could ever take place.

He was born in Caldwell County, Mo., on July 3, 1853, the son of Aaron Pfost who had married Margaret Harpold; and he grew up in Missouri, remaining there until he was twenty-one. His father was from Pennsylvania-Dutch stock, while his mother came from Virginia.

At twenty-two, Mr. Pfost made his first trip to California, ten years after his father had died. The worthy parents had had ten children, six boys and four girls; but three of the boys died in infancy; and perhaps because the mother had undertaken to keep the family together, he felt that he must return to Missouri earlier than he would otherwise have wished. While here, he worked around in Merced and Ventura counties, and this gave him a good opportunity to get his bearings.

His marriage occurred during his twenty-sixth year and while he was in Missouri, and having inherited some of the lands of the estate, he farmed his property, and one hundred acres which he hired. He married Miss Eva Utt, who was born in Missouri and reared in Kansas, the daughter of Richard and Nancy Utt. Her family were farmers, and appreciating the greater opportunities in California, they came further West, arriving on Christmas night, in 1883. They stopped in Ventura County, raised a crop of beans, on



Antonio Feristiere

rented land, and then came on to San Luis Obispo. They took up some homestead land, preempted and proved up, and were well-known as pioneers.

On Christmas Day, 1883, Mr. Pfost arrived in Los Angeles, on his second visit to the Golden State, and on October 2, 1903, he came to Riverdale, in Fresno County. He rented the Mrs. Applegarth place for eight years, and farmed the land where the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery now stands,—in which well-known concern he is a stockholder. Now he owns a ranch of fifty acres, with a commodious house and the usual barns, all surrounded with fine fences and a good yard. Recently he rebuilt his home, and it is more than ever up-to-date and amply large. The Pfosts have lived ten years on this ranch, and they have been happy years.

Mr. and Mrs. Pfost have had six children, five of whom are still living. Monroe, the eldest, died unmarried, two years ago, when he was thirty-six years old. Charles Wesley, also single, lives at home. Stella keeps house for James L. and Aaron R. Pfost, in Kings County; Aaron R. has forty acres, and James L. has forty-five, in Kings County, in the Summit Lake country. Viola is at home.

The parents are prominent members of the United Brethren Church at Riverdale, and helped build that church, as well as the edifice at North Fork. Mr. Pfost served as Sunday School Superintendent for five years, and Mrs. Pfost has been prominent in the Ladies' Aid of the United Brethren Church, as well as in the work of the Red Cross. Both husband and wife, who are Progressive Republicans, have done their full duty in promoting the sale of Liberty Bonds.

ANTONIO FORISTIERE.—The similarity of California's climate to that of "sunny Italy" may account for the attraction which California has for so many of Italy's sons who have been induced to try their fortunes in America on the shores of the Pacific slope.

Antonio Foristiere, proprietor of the San Joaquin Paste Company, whose factory is located at the corner of Belmont and First Street, Fresno, is a native of Messina, Italy, born June 18, 1874. He was educated in the country schools of his native land and as a lad engaged in packing lemons for shipment. He also learned to graft and prune trees of every kind. He saw four years' service in the Italian navy, followed the trade of a barber in the old country, and in 1900, when twenty-six years of age came to Boston, Mass., where he continued the occupation of barber for eight years before coming to Fresno, Cal., in 1908. He followed the trade of barber in Fresno until 1911, then bought a lot at the corner of Belmont and First Street, built a three-story factory, forty by sixty feet in dimension, and engaged in the manufacture of all lines of Italian paste—macaroni, vermicelli, etc.—making altogether over fifty varieties. His factory contains all modern machinery and the question of sanitation has received a great amount of attention, the equipment being thoroughly sanitary in every sense of the word. Flour and water are mixed in patent machines, run through molds of different sizes and laid on trays with covers, to dry. Eight days are required for the drying process before the goods are ready for sale. The goods will keep from six to twelve months and have attained a reputation for their superiority, purity, cleanliness and the attractive manner in which they are put on the market. Goods for retail are put up in sanitary paste-board boxes with directions for cooking on the outside. The brand, "San Joaquin Brand of Paste, Absolutely Pure,"—is well known both at home and abroad. Mr. Foristiere was one of the first men to erect a building in Arlington Heights. His business ventures have been successful, and in the spring of 1918 he purchased four lots fronting on Belmont and five lots fronting on Madison Avenue, and on the latter has built two modern bungalows.

On December 3, 1911, he married Mrs. Josephine Basotti, a native of Italy, and they have two children, Rosario and Annie, both born in Fresno.

Mr. Foristiere is a member of the Owl Lodge of Fresno, of which he was treasurer four years. A self-made man, his ability to see and grasp an opportunity have been salient aids to success, and he is among Fresno's worthy and respected citizens.

VIRGIL S. MILES.—With his interesting family consisting of his accomplished wife and three bright children, Virgil S. Miles lives comfortably domiciled at what is commonly known as the Riverdale Parsonage, a residence property which he acquired in the spring of 1919. This property contains two acres of land which he has improved, with two dwellings, giving an acre to each. When he sold his twenty-acre ranch, he reserved his living house—a cute little bungalow, which he himself had built—and this he moved onto the west half of his recent purchase at Riverdale, thus affording comfortable homes for two families. In addition to this he owns twenty acres of excellent land one and a half miles west of Lanare. He was born in Missouri in 1877, being a son of J. C. and Almira (Dome) Miles, the former having been born in Connecticut and the latter in Indiana. The father was a California forty-niner and a pioneer lawyer of Sacramento, but later returned east to Leavenworth, Kans., where he practiced his profession and speculated in lands. He was one of the first persons to take up land at the government land-opening at Guthrie, Okla., in 1889, but died in that state soon afterwards, at the age of fifty-nine years. His widow married again and now resides in New Jersey with her younger sons, who are engaged in operating a factory at Newark, N. J.

Virgil S. was reared in Leavenworth County, Kans., and when eleven years of age accompanied his father to Guthrie, Okla., to attend the opening sale of land, remaining there from June to October, 1889, when he returned to Leavenworth. After his father's death, and following his mother's second marriage, he left for the great northwest, working at various occupations and at different places, and finally reaching British Columbia. From this country he returned to the United States, stopping awhile in Wyoming, where with a brother he engaged in the cattle business. The severe winters of Wyoming led Mr. Miles to consider the advisability of seeking a milder climate, and it is not strange that California appealed to him and claimed his attentions.

After his arrival in Fresno County, Mr. Miles worked for H. E. Vogel, the creamery man, where he remained twenty-two months, and during this time he learned the dairy business. Afterwards he was engaged for two years to work for J. B. Lewis. Mr. Miles was much pleased with California, especially with Fresno County, and decided to make it his permanent home. For a while he worked in the vicinity of Riverdale, and in 1910 purchased twenty acres of land two miles east of Riverdale, which he improved and paid for and where he resided until 1919, when he sold it and bought the aforesaid residence property at Riverdale. In 1917, Mr. Miles purchased another twenty-acre tract of land, located one and a half miles west of Lanare, on Mt. Whitney Avenue, and he is now leveling, checking and ditching this place preparatory to planting alfalfa. In 1907 he made his first venture in the bee business, purchasing for the purpose 500 stands of bees, but through inexperience and the "black-brood" he lost a very large portion of his bees and investment. Undaunted by the failure of his initial venture, through intelligent perseverance and pluck, he continued to operate an apiary and has so well succeeded in gaining a thorough knowledge of the business that today he is regarded as one of Fresno County's successful apiarists. During the season of 1918, Mr. Miles sold sixty-four cases of honey for \$1,706.62, and has 200 stands of bees.

In 1910, Virgil S. Miles was united in marriage with Miss Louise Perkins, from Wisconsin, a graduate of Carroll College, Waukesha, Wis., and who became a teacher and taught in Wisconsin, also in Santa Cruz and Fresno Counties, California, where she received a life certificate for teach-

ing. Mrs. Miles is a daughter of Peter Perkins, who was born in Jefferson County, N. Y. He came west to Wisconsin and became a farmer and gained public prominence as the postmaster at Oconomowoc, Wis., for several years. Mr. and Mrs. Miles have three children: Virgil Perkins, Gloria Louise, and Seward Corrington. Mr. Miles has purchased a one-and-a-half-ton motor-truck and supplements his income from the ranch and apiary by conducting a trucking and freighting business. Mr. and Mrs. Miles are very studious and thoughtful people and are greatly interested in the economical and industrial questions pertaining to this age, and are earnestly seeking to do their part in the uplifting of humanity.

JAMES D. HENDERSON.—An industrious citizen who owns and operates choice property of his own, is James D. Henderson, in charge of the C. A. Sample ranch of eighty acres on Elm Avenue, sixteen and a half miles south of Fresno. He was born in Grant County, Wis., on December 21, 1864, the son of John W and Martha Henderson. They moved to Missouri with their family when James was only five years of age, and settled at Bowling Green, in Pike County, at which place two more sons and daughters were born, making a family of five children in all. The father became a farmer and stockman in Missouri and died there, at the age of seventy-nine; and the mother also died in that state, when our subject was only eighteen years old.

James attended the public schools in Missouri, and at fifteen went into business. He became a fireman on the Wabash Railway, and finally was made a locomotive engineer, with a run from Moberly to Kansas City, and to St. Louis and Des Moines, Iowa.

In 1892, at Moberly, Mr. Henderson was married to Miss Rosa Barnard of Vandalia, and so long as he continued in the railway service, he remained a resident of Moberly, leaving that town only to come West.

July 20, 1899, found him at Fresno, and two weeks later he went to work for the Southern Pacific Railway. He served as engineer and ran a switch engine for five years, during which time he was doing some hard and successful thinking in regard to the future.

After a while, he bought a ranch in Temperance Colony east of Fresno, and there soon set out twenty acres to zinfandels. His good wife died on the ranch, and then he went to Fresno and for three years ran the "Temple" rooming-house at the corner of I and Tulare Streets.

Having no children, Mr. Henderson lives with a relative at 1462 Thomas Avenue, Fresno.

ARTHUR B. GRANTHAM.—A successful rancher whose holdings represent his own plucky and unaided efforts is Arthur B. Grantham, who came to California from Oklahoma and, although he has been twice seriously injured, has courageously stuck to his purpose of making a place for himself in the world. He represents one of the best of American families, and he has wisely improved each golden opportunity that has come his way.

He was born near the county line between Cape Girardeau and Bollinger Counties, Mo., March 25, 1885, and came with his parents to Oklahoma when he was only five years of age. He was reared in Oklahoma, but removed in the fall of 1905 to Kingsburg, Cal. His father was Havey Richard Grantham and his mother, before her marriage, was Rowena Theodosia Lee, a distant relative of General Lee. Her father was William Ludwell Lee, a cousin of the distinguished military leader, and Mrs. Grantham was a native of Missouri, in which state they were married. They had seven children, among whom our subject is the eldest son and the third born; and one boy and three girls are still living.

Having attended the rudimentary private schools in Oklahoma, Arthur learned to farm and raise stock there. His sister, Mrs. G. F. Craig now of Lanare and he together with Mr. Craig came in a party to Kingsburg in 1905. Mr. Craig was a clerk for W. T. Hamilton, proprietor of the largest general

merchandise store in Riverdale, and is now the proprietor of Craig's General Merchandise Store at Lanare, which he opened in 1919 where Mr. Grantham is now engaged as a clerk. He is also the Noble Grand of the I. O. O. F. Lodge at Riverdale, which is the main lodge and social organization in that town. Mr. Grantham began working out by the month, and later he became an employee of Clarence Berry on the Wagner Ranch under Oscar Butler at Kingsburg.

Mr. Grantham's parents came out in February, 1906, and settled two miles to the south of Kingsburg, where the father now owns a fruit ranch of thirty-three acres. Arthur helped his father improve the land, and continued to work for him, and he also worked for a couple of years for Miller & Lux on the Button Willow Ranch in Kern County. Then he butchered at Kingsburg and also ran the River Bend Market at the same place, and later he worked for G. F. Craig in his meat market at Riverdale, where he was active for a year, and then he broke horses for two years and bought cattle for Joe McKale of Berkeley for six months.

Then Mr. Grantham moved to Modesto and rented the Dr. Rosseau place of 130 acres. He put in a crop and came back home and worked through the fruit season, and the next spring entered the service of Frank Stober of Kingsburg. He was injured there and laid up at Redondo Beach that winter; after which he came back to his father's ranch. While in Fresno on February 3, 1917, he was run over by an automobile and his right leg was broken, leaving him permanently injured.

Mr. Grantham's father and mother are still living. He has bought Liberty Bonds and otherwise supported the Government.

P. C. JENSEN.—A well-traveled Danish-American who has seen a good deal of the United States, despite, or perhaps because of ill-health which has been greatly improved by American conditions, is P. C. Jensen. When selling a farm to some one he has sought always to find a customer who was in need of a ranch for a home. By thus assisting people to establish themselves, he has made friends and well-wishers of his patrons, and has never lost a cent through default in payments.

He was born at Jylland, Denmark, on January 28, 1871, the son of Jens and Elaine (Petersen) Jensen, and grew up to help his father, who was a carpenter and also had a small farm, and is now living at the advanced age of eighty-three; Mrs. Jensen died fourteen years ago. There were other children in the family, and Mr. Jensen has a brother and two sisters.

In 1889, Mr. Jensen came to the United States and to Michigan, settling for a couple of years in the iron mines at Ishpeming, after which he was in the copper mines at Calumet and Hecla for a year. He then came out to South Dakota, on July 25, 1892, and took up farming, near Dell Rapids, in Minnehaha County, but after a year he made a visit to Denmark, remaining at home three months. On his return to the United States, he stopped at Kenosha, Wis., and from March, 1893, worked for four years as a farm laborer. After that he became ill and again went back to Denmark. He farmed his father's place, and in time recuperated sufficiently to return to America where he still believed he saw greater opportunities than in the Old World.

When he again found himself on American soil, Mr. Jensen tarried for four months in Massachusetts, rapidly building up his health again; but he had decided that California was his goal, and to Kingsburg he came in 1900. The same year he was married in Kingsburg to Miss Mary Sundegaard, a native of his birthplace, and a charming lady whom he had known from school-days. Very soon after he bought his first land in California.

He purchased twenty acres one mile north of the Kimball Colony, and since that time he has bought, improved and sold five or six ranches in Fresno County. He now owns twenty-eight acres which he purchased four years ago. On his first ranch in the Kimball Colony, he lived for seventeen years.



Henry Weber Jr



Anna Margaretha Weber

The greater part of the time that he has spent in California he has been a citizen of Fresno County; and he was absent from this section only in 1913, when he spent most of that year in Colorado, and Long Beach.

The poor health of his boy was the cause of his journey to Colorado in 1913, as the lad was threatened with incipient consumption; and for that reason father and son left Central California. A sojourn in Colorado and at the quiet resort of Long Beach enabled the boy to regain his health entirely, while it also did Mr. Jensen a world of good. Now the son is a young man of ability, especially in mechanical pursuits, and gives promise of a highly useful career, in keeping with the mechanical traditions of the family.

Mr. Jensen is a prominent member of the Danish Lutheran Church, which is on the Del Rey and Sanger road. He has long served as a trustee, and helped erect the church in 1905. He believes that this is a good world, and that it is quite possible for the people in it to make it still better by living consistent Christian lives every day in the week.

Mr. and Mrs. Jensen are the parents of three children. They are Roscoe J. and Harriet; and the third child is Christina, adopted nine years ago when three years of age.

HENRY WEBER, JR.—A man who takes an especial pride in the fact that he has contributed to the upbuilding of Fresno County is Henry Weber, Jr., a representative young rancher of the Dunkard school district, twelve miles west of Fresno. He was born in Samara, Russia, December 5, 1885, the son of Henry and Anna Margareta (Weber) Weber, who, in 1900, came with their three children to California and took up their home in Fresno County. They bought twenty acres in Sierra Park Colony, west of Fowler, which they improved to vines and a peach orchard, later sold it and bought a place at Oleander where they raised alfalfa until the father retired. The mother died at Fowler in June, 1911, and the father resides in Fresno.

Henry is the oldest of four children and was educated in the public schools of his native town until his arrival in Fresno County, on February 22, 1900. He went to work on grain ranches for a few years, then began to learn the vineyard and orchard business. In November, 1908, he bought twenty acres where he now lives and has made all of the visible improvements seen there today, nearly all of his tract, which originally was a weed patch, being set to the Thompson seedless raisin grapes. He added to his holdings by purchase of twenty acres near California Avenue, and this he leveled, setting ten acres to Thompsons and planting ten acres to alfalfa. He erected a modern house on his property and has a nicely improved ranch for a home place.

On May 10, 1906, Mr. Weber and Miss Anna Margareta Rudel were married at Fowler. She also was born in Samara and came to Wisconsin in 1902 with her parents, Nicholas and Christina (Jacoby) Rudel. There the father died and the mother is now living at Warsaw, Wis. Mrs. Weber came to Fresno County in 1906. They have had four children: Phillip Daniel, died aged six months; Frederick William; Laura; and Lydia.

Mr. and Mrs. Weber are members of the Evangelical Association in Fresno. Mr. Weber is a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company. He is a loyal citizen of his adopted country and is ever ready to aid every worthy project for its upbuilding. He is recognized as a leader among his countrymen, always ready to assist them in all their transactions. In politics he votes for the best men and measures, regardless of party affiliations.

FRED C. BONYMAN.—A young man of sterling qualities is Fred C. Bonyman, clerk of the Caruthers Union High School. The family lived many years in Lassen County before coming to Fresno, and there Fred was born on December 2, 1885, in what is known as Clark's Valley.

His father was Edward Bonyman, a native of Nova Scotia who crossed the plains in 1859 in company with his father, John Bonyman, coming to

California from Carroll County, Ill. They were farmers and soon went to Virginia City, Nev. The father later engaged in the wood business and was married at Dayton, Nev., to Miss Mary Ann Rawlings, a native of Wednesbury, Staffordshire, England, and the daughter of John M. Rawlings, who was a farmer and an iron-worker. His wife was Letitia Hemming before her marriage, and she died in 1865. The following year the father and two daughters came to Utah; and from Utah they moved to Nevada.

Mr. and Mrs. Bonyman came to California in 1872 and settled in Lassen County, where all their children, excepting Letitia, were born. They raised stock and farmed. Mr. Bonyman was school trustee for a while in Lassen County, and enjoyed reasonable prosperity.

In 1891 he moved with his family to Selma, and for several years they farmed a ranch northeast of that town. In 1911, however, they sold out and came to the vicinity of Caruthers. Here they have 102 acres, of which thirty acres are devoted to Thompson's seedless grapes, and twenty acres to malagas. The rest of the land is devoted to general or mixed farming.

Mr. Bonyman is a member of the firm of Bonyman Brothers, vineyardists and farmers, and with him are associated Newton, who was born on October 7, 1873; Albert, born on January 4, 1875; and John R., born on September 24, 1887. They make a specialty of growing raisins, and their establishment is three miles southeast of Caruthers, in what is known as the Princeton district.

WILLIAM JACKSON BERRY.—The venerable pioneer of Fresno County and oil man of Selma, William Jackson Berry, has passed to his reward, but his works and deeds remain, a living heritage bequeathed to a loyal citizenry. Among the substantial residents of Fresno County there is no name more familiarly quoted than that of William J. Berry, or, as he is more often called by his intimate friends, "Uncle Bill Berry." He had been actively identified with the best interests of California ever since 1861, and especially with the oil industry of this part of the state; and the agricultural possibilities also were demonstrated by his success along that line. Uncle Bill Berry was born in Washington County, Mo., June 14, 1840, a son of Hugh C. Berry.

The name of Hugh has been a favored one in the Berry family and it has marked five generations. The grandfather of our subject was named Hugh, and was born in Ireland but came to the United States and settled in Virginia in Colonial days. He was a distiller and owned slaves who worked his large plantation. The second Hugh, was the father of William Jackson Berry. He was a man of exceptional education and was a noted mathematician. During his early manhood he taught school in Washington County and had among his pupils a young lady who subsequently married a Mr. Apperson and became the mother of Mrs. Phoebe Hearst; George C. Hearst was also a pupil in his school; he became a United States senator and was the father of the journalist, William Randolph Hearst. Hugh C. Berry did not keep slaves, for he could not farm on account of becoming crippled when he was a lad, so he engaged in teaching school. After the war he went to Texas, located near Granbury, with his son Hugh, and there spent the remainder of his days, dying at an advanced age. He married Harriet A. Johnson, a native of North Carolina and a second cousin of Senator Hiram W. Johnson, but who settled in Washington County, Mo., with her parents, when she was a child. She bore her husband nine sons and three daughters. The next Hugh Berry was the son of Hugh C. just mentioned and Uncle Bill Berry had a son named Hugh F. who has a daughter, Pearl, now Mrs. Walter Boyd, a noted vocalist and pianist of Los Angeles.

Uncle Bill Berry acquired a practical common school education, although it was somewhat limited. His father gave him instruction on Saturdays when he was not teaching. When he was twenty-one, the Civil War was threatening and he decided he would leave the country and come West.

He could foresee the bloody times ahead if he remained in Missouri and he left there the next morning after Fort Sumter was fired upon. With the spirit of adventure strong in him, he joined a party under the command of Capt. Phinneas Braley, and with ox teams crossed the plains via Utah and Nevada. He worked as a driver on part of the journey to California, thus paying his way. He had no money when he left home and his father told him to call upon George C. Hearst when he arrived in California for any assistance or advice he might need, but necessity kept him too busy to go to visit him. He was thrown on his own resources and grew up to be self-reliant. As soon as he arrived in this state he went to the mines in Eldorado County, mined for a time, then bought two yoke of oxen, the price being \$1,034. He paid down all the money he had, \$180, and paid the balance off in instalments, and began freighting. He became an expert teamster, driving five yoke of oxen in hauling heavy freight, consisting of heavy machinery that was used in the mines in California and Nevada. He then went to Mendocino County and bought a ranch in Litte Lake Valley. In 1864, with his brothers-in-law, Charles P. Traber and J. B. Coates, and others, he drove over this section of Fresno County for the first time and helped survey this part of the county. He named a school district, Mendocino, after the county of that name. The land was a repelling desert, and he has seen it change into a veritable garden spot and the "Home of the Peach." He took up a half section of land and later obtained a full section of railroad land. With Moses J. Church (the father of irrigation in Fresno County), and a Mr. Easterly, and Messrs. Traber and Coates, and others (twenty-six in all), Mr. Berry assisted in digging the ditch for the Fresno Irrigation Canal. Mr. Berry improved his land and engaged in farming with gratifying results. In 1878 he helped dig the Center-ville and Kingsburg ditch and later the Fowler Switch ditch, all of which has done much to develop this county.

In 1863, W. J. Berry was united in marriage with Miss Anna Coates, a daughter of George I. Coates who came to California in 1862. Of this union six children have been born: Hugh Franklin, residing in San Francisco; Clarence J., one of the best known oil operators in California who is living in San Francisco; Henry, a well known oil man of Los Angeles; Frederick, a successful fruit-grower near Selma; Cora, who married R. J. Skelton of Los Angeles; and Nellie, who became the wife of Harry Smith, a Klondiker, but now an oil man at Taft. Mrs. Anna Berry, the mother of these children, now past eighty, survives her husband; now in the evening of life, she can look back upon a life given to worthy deeds.

In 1888, Mr. Berry moved into Selma where he erected a good residence and started in the real estate business, which he continued a number of years. He bought several sections of railroad land, which was farmed by himself and sons; in 1898 he made a trip into Alaska, accompanied by three of his sons. When he returned to Selma he became interested in the development of the West Side oil fields in Kern County. He traveled over the country from Coalinga to Taft, noticed the outcroppings of oil and other indications, then with his sons he bought several sections of land near McKittrick, Taft and in the Kern River field. They developed several properties, the most important being the C. J. Oil Company at McKittrick, named in honor of his son Clarence J.; and the Ethel D., in honor of the wife of Clarence J. Berry. These properties continue to be fine producers. Mr. Berry held in his own right until his death, some 700 acres in the West Side fields, which is known to be oil land, but as yet undeveloped. Several other companies had the benefit of Uncle Bill Berry's counsel and judgment and he has been a prominent figure in the development of the oil industry in San Joaquin Valley.

From the time that Mr. Berry was given employment by Captain Braley in crossing the plains in 1861, he never lost a day, and could have had any number of jobs after he began freighting, if he had wanted to take them.

He was a hard worker, a man of good judgment, and had a rich experience during his long and busy life.

The death of William J. Berry occurred at the age of seventy-nine in Ocean Park, near Los Angeles, on Friday, July 18, 1919. The body was brought from Los Angeles on a special train, accompanied by his good wife, the family and many relatives, who were at his bedside in Ocean Park. The funeral was held at the First Presbyterian Church in Selma, and interment was in the Fresno Mausoleum.

E. ED PETERSON.—Only those familiar with the intimate relations of banking institutions to the steady, sound growth of a live, ambitious city can realize the value to Kingsburg of the Kingsburg Bank. Its popular assistant cashier, E. Ed Peterson, a native of Wayne County, Nebr., where he was born, near Wakefield, on September 6, 1885. His father, P. M. Peterson, is a rancher who lives west of Kingsburg. He had married Miss Kjersti Person, and by her he had four children. The first in order of birth was the subject of this review; then came Clara, who is at home; a second daughter, named Esther, has become Mrs. Alfred Gunnerson, the wife of a rancher in Tulare County; while Helen, the youngest, is a teacher in the Kingsburg school.

Growing up in Nebraska, Ed attended the public schools and was a year at the high school at Wakefield. Then he went to Luther College at Wahoo, and in 1904 was graduated from the commercial department. Off and on he farmed in Nebraska, and there acquired a general experience in grain and stock raising.

In 1910, when he came direct to Kingsburg, he continued ranch work for a year and a half, and then, when the Kingsburg Bank opened, he started there as bookkeeper. This was on May 2, 1911, the imposing bank building having been erected the year before. He was appointed city trustee to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Charles Schaeffer, and is still in office.

Mr. Peterson was married at Kingsburg in 1912 to Miss Della Heerman, a native of Nebraska, who came to the Coast when she was a little girl. Her parents, M. N. and Huldah Heerman, now live retired in Santa Monica. Three girls—May, Effie and Eva—and a boy, Edwin, have blessed the union and added to the popularity of the family which enjoys life in the Peterson residence at Bungaloville, in Kingsburg. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, and Mr. Peterson served on the committee which erected the fine church edifice costing \$20,000.

BENJAMIN AMADOR.—A representative of one of California's old Spanish families is Benjamin Amador, popularly known as Ben, whose wife is the oldest native daughter in the Elkhorn district and comes from the equally old and well-known Spanish-Mexican family of Garcia. He is a grandson of Jose M. Amador, who owned the great Amador Grant, a very valuable tract of land three miles square near Alameda, which is still in litigation. Mr. and Mrs. Amador live on the Garcia Ranch of eighty acres six miles southeast of Burrell, which belongs to Mrs. Amador. Her maiden name was Rafaela Garcia, and she was the only child of Stephen Garcia, who died at Hanford at the age of seventy-five.

Mrs. Amador was twice married, having been born and reared on the Stephen Garcia Ranch, which originally consisted of 160 acres. There she married her first husband, Romeo Garcia, by whom she had nine children: Josie, Newt, Romeo, Leonora, Frank, Camillo, Jessie, Martha and Ellen. Her first husband died in 1906, and her father passed away fifteen days later. She was then married to Mr. Amador, by whom she has had six children, five of whom are living: Della, Antonia, Frankalino, Victoria and Carolina; and also one that died.

Mr. Amador was born on March 17, 1854, at Benicia, and he was well



Thomas J. Petersen

acquainted with many of the leading Spanish families of California. His mother was Mary Pacheco while his father was Selso Amador. His grandfather owned great tracts of land between Dublin and San Ramon. Ben grew up at Benicia, San Leandro and Livermore, and in the latter place he attended the public schools, and then went to Madera where he farmed for seven years.

He, too, was twice married. In 1880, he was joined to Antonia Higuera of Livermore, and by her he had four children, two of whom are still living, Joe and Barbara Amador. From Madera he went to Selma, and in that town and district he lived for twenty years, during which time he busied himself for the most part in teaming. Then he removed to Caruthers, where he farmed, and after that he came in 1908 to his present place near Burrel. One of Mr. Amador's sons, Joe, served in France in the World War, and two of Mrs. Amador's sons served in the army: Newt and Romeo trained at Camp Kearney. For years a steadfast Republican, Mr. Amador has sought in every way fully to do his civic duty. He knew Vasquez, the desperado, and both saw and talked with him. He hauled cord-wood from near Kingston to Lille's, and he often put up at Old Kingston, which was a road-house and a favorite stopping place for teamsters hauling lumber, machinery, groceries, merchandise and such freight from Visalia up to the Laguna de Tache Grant and over to Burrel, where the late Cuthbert Burrel, who owned the lumber yard at Visalia, was then developing his large ranch of 15,000 acres.

THOMAS J. PETERSEN.—A popular Native Son, as well as a son of a pioneer master mariner, of the Pacific coasting trade, Thomas J. Petersen, the subject of this review, was born in Berkeley, Cal., September 24, 1880, the son of Capt. Charles and Nellie (Riley) Petersen. His father was born at Tønning, Schleswig, Denmark, and when but a lad of thirteen years ran away from home and went to sea on a sailing vessel which landed in America. Afterwards he sailed to the different ports of the world and eventually reached San Francisco in 1849, at the time of the beginning of the gold excitement. Here he remained and soon afterwards began sailing in the coasting trade, eventually becoming a captain of a vessel, and later on master of vessels and part owner of a line of ships, among them being the *Casper*, one of the first steam schooners on the Pacific Coast. Captain Petersen was principally engaged in the lumber trade, until 1895 when he was accidentally killed, at Port Costa, by slipping and falling over the side of the vessel, being crushed between the dock and the side of the ship. The mother of T. J. Petersen was, in maidenhood, Nellie Riley, a native of the Emerald Isle, and she emigrated from Ireland to California, when nineteen years of age, where she met and married Charles Petersen. She passed away in Berkeley in 1897. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Petersen were the parents of eight children, five of whom are living, Thomas J. being the second oldest.

Thomas J. Petersen was reared in Berkeley and is a graduate of the high school of that city. After his graduation he went to sea, entering the Pacific coast trade, having previously become familiar with this business when he worked for his father, before he graduated from the high school.

In 1897 Mr. Petersen went to Nome, Alaska, and was engaged in running vessels between San Francisco and Nome. Afterwards he returned to Oakland, Cal., where he was employed by the Southern Pacific Railway Company, first as a brakeman, on trains running out of Oakland, but was soon advanced to the position of a conductor which work he continued to follow on suburban runs until 1909, when he located in Coalinga.

For two years he was employed by the American Petroleum Company in their production department, when he became Deputy City Marshal, filling the office for one year, when he resigned to engage in business in Coalinga. In the spring of 1918, he was appointed City Marshal, to fill a vacancy, and since then he devotes all of his time to his official duties. By virtue of his office Mr. Petersen is ex-officio tax and license collector and superintendent of streets.

At the primary election in the fall of 1918, Mr. Petersen received enough votes to elect him to the position of Constable of the Sixth Township, of Fresno County. This fact emphasizes the great popularity of Thomas J. Petersen and the high esteem in which he is held by the people of the city of Coalinga and residents of Township Six.

Thomas J. Petersen was united in marriage in Coalinga with Miss Gean Ansolabehere, a native of Basses-Pyrenees, France. This union has been blessed with four children: Martina, Georgia, Thomas J. Jr., and Jeanne Marie.

Fraternally Mr. Petersen is a member of Coalinga Aerie of Eagles and has been honored by the election to the office of chairman of the board of trustees; he is also a member of the Coalinga Lodge of Moose, of which he is the treasurer; he is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and the Growlers Club, and in national politics supports the Democratic platform and candidates.

WILLIAM MOLLER.—How a singular streak of good-luck often enables a man to get his first favorable start in a successful career, is illustrated in the life-story of William Moller, who arrived in California during the Centennial year of the Republic. A native of Denmark, he was born in Kjere-mynde, Fyen, on March 28, 1850, the son of Christian Moller, a merchant tailor, who had married Lasina Petersen, and by whom he had six children. Both Mr. and Mrs. Moller lived to a fair old age and died in their native land. William was the second youngest in the family, and he was brought up in Denmark and attended the Danish public schools. When fourteen he was apprenticed to a baker; and at the baker's trade he continued until he was twenty-two.

In 1873, however, William decided to push out into the world; and sailing from Denmark he came to America. It was not an easy matter, prior to his departure, to figure out how he could pay for such a trip; and while turning the subject over in his mind, he decided to invest a good portion of the small amount he had on hand in the purchase of a lottery ticket owned by a friend who did not have the courage to hold on to it and take his chances. Most luckily for William, the number drew a prize of \$250, so that he was able, in the end, to travel as far as San Francisco and still have a small residue. For a while he worked at his trade in the bay city, and then he entered the employ of the Spreckels Sugar Refinery, with which concern he remained until 1876.

In that year, Mr. Moller had the foresight to leave the coast and come inland to Fresno. His object was to buy land; for although he had never before farmed, he was willing to try, and such willingness is the first stepping-stone to prosperity. He bought twenty acres in the Central Colony, and in so doing became one of the first settlers there. He planted alfalfa and set out a vineyard, and went in for dairying and poultry-raising, and was one of the original stockholders of the Danish Creamery Association. All in all, he continued there twenty-eight years.

In 1901 he sold his property and bought his present place of sixty acres then raw land. On account of its unfavorable condition, he paid only \$37.50 an acre, and probably that was all the land was then worth; but he leveled the rough surface and by hard work improved it in various ways; and then he put in thirteen acres of alfalfa. Later he turned the entire tract into a vineyard, and raised both muscat, raisin and Thompson seedless grapes, getting his irrigation service from the neighboring ditch. He set out trees and vines, and he also built a fine residence and the usual barns and outhouses. Later, he sold twenty acres of the farm to his son, Magnus. The tract lies two miles west of Fresno, between Belmont and Whites Bridge Road.

While in San Francisco in 1876, Mr. Moller was married to Miss Louisa Rasmussen, a native of Fredensborg, Denmark, who came to California in 1873. Their married life has been singularly happy, blessed by the birth

of seven children. One of these—Walter—died when he was three years of age; but the others are living. Bendin is a farmer in Oregon; Herman is a machinist in Fresno; William is a farmer not far away, as is also Magnus; Ella, who married and became Mrs. Prickett, resides at Modesto; and Louis, a machinist by trade, is now serving in a machine gun division in the American Army in France. Besides being a member of the Danish Brotherhood, Mr. Moller is affiliated with the Lutheran Church, of which he was a trustee for years.

A firm believer in the sure and surely attractive destiny of Central California, Mr. Moller has always been identified with one or another of the raisin associations and at present is one of the most enthusiastic "boosters" of that industry in California. He belongs to the Republican party and has for years taken an active interest in national politics, and is a supporter of every sensible movement for local uplift and improvement.

NELS SWANSON.—A viticulturist who has been very successful and now owns one of the best-improved ranches in the vicinity of Fresno, is Nels Swanson, who was born near Laholm, Halan, Sweden, December 7, 1872, the son of Swen Paulson, a farmer there, now deceased, and Ingri Paulson, who is still living, the mother of eight children. As the fourth eldest, he was brought up on a farm and at the same time attended the public schools of his neighborhood.

In 1892, Nels crossed the ocean and the continent to Fresno, arriving here on May 17, and he soon went to work in a vineyard at Oleander, continuing in that field of endeavor until 1898 when the news of the new discovery of gold in Alaska urged him, with others, to hasten to the Klondike.

He reached Dyea and then packed over Chilcoot Pass and reached Sheeps Camp soon after a big snow slide, and finally got to Lake Luideneau and Bennett. With the help of a companion or two, he made a scow, and they floated down the Yukon to Dawson. They obtained claims, but not enough gold to make it pay; and he was glad, in the end, to work for others at one dollar per hour. After two such winters in the extreme North, Mr. Swanson came back to Fresno County on October 4, 1900.

He then bought thirty acres at the corner of Johnson and Belmont Avenues, and there he engaged in viticulture for five years. In 1906, however, he bought his present place of twenty acres on Madison Avenue three and a half miles west from Fresno, which he soon devoted to the growing of raisins, —muscat and Thompson seedless. He early joined the movement for a better raisin association, and is now an active supporter of the California Associated Raisin Company. In 1908 he made a trip back to his old home, visiting his parents and friends, returning home three months later, after an enjoyable trip.

While in Fresno, Mr. Swanson was married on February 18, 1903, to Miss Ida Gustafson, a native of Westmanland, Sweden, who came to Fresno with her parents in July, 1892. This union has proven singularly happy, and four children have come to bless the Swanson fireside. Carlton Sherwood is the eldest; and the others are Freda, Edith and Nels, Jr. Mr. Swanson is a Lutheran, and the family attend that church, and are active in its various good works.

WILLIAM H. SININGER.—A successful rancher is William H. Sininger, the experienced viticulturist who is in charge of the old N. N. Norton vineyard on White's Bridge Road, where he has been since December, 1907. He was born at Bentonville, Adams County, Ohio, on January 26, 1886, the son of John Allen Sininger, of Ohio, who was a farmer there. He married Mamie L. Miller, also an Ohioan. Eleven children once made up the family; and ten are still living.

William was the oldest and was reared on a farm, while he attended the usual lower country schools and completed the course of the high school,

after which he continued with his father until 1906, when he came west to California. He arrived in Fresno on April 15, and entered the employ of H. E. Norton, for whom he ranched in the Madison district. Later he worked in Pierce & Norton's sawmills. In 1907, however, and the month of December, Mr. Sininger came onto his present place. It is the old N. N. Norton estate, at White's Bridge and Johnson Avenue, and has, besides a fine orchard and fields of alfalfa, a vineyard of fifty acres, set out to sultana, empires and malagas.

At Fresno, July, 1918, Mr. Sininger was married to Mrs. Elo (Whitlock) Thompson, a native of Tehama County, Cal., who by her first union had two children—Howard and Morris Thompson. Mrs. Sininger shares with her husband a large circle of devoted friends.

Mr. Sininger has always favored cooperation, and so has always supported every association movement. He is a Democrat, but he never allows his democracy to interfere when it comes to supporting what he really believes to be the best man and the best measure. Had Fresno County not been blessed with many such sterling citizens as Mr. Sininger, it could never have forged to the fore as the foremost of all counties in the Golden State.

WADE GRIFFIN.—The efficient and popular superintendent of the Consolidated Water Company of Coalinga, Cal., Wade Griffin, is a native of Waxahachie, Ellis County, Tex., a son of George and Margaret (Jordan) Griffin. Both George Griffin and grandfather Wade Griffin were born in the state of Louisiana, the grandfather having been killed during the Civil War. George Griffin, when a young man, moved to Texas, and it was in that state that he was united in marriage with Margaret Jordan, this union being blessed with seven children, Wade Griffin, the subject of this sketch, being the second oldest and the only member of the family in California.

Mrs. Griffin passed away in July, 1907, but the father is still living in Texas where he owns a farm of 500 acres, devoted to raising cotton, which he rents out, George Griffin being engaged as the manager of a large cotton gin. Wade was brought up on the farm in Texas where he learned farming and stock-raising, assisting his father in the work of the place until he was twenty-one years of age, when he removed to Claremore, Okla., where he was employed in the bridge and building department of the Missouri Pacific Railway Company. In 1905 Mr. Griffin removed to Fullerton, Cal., where, in partnership with J. C. Shepherd, he was engaged in concrete and cement contracting, constructing pipe lines and sidewalks, continuing in this business until 1908 when he dissolved partnership with Mr. Shepherd and came to Coalinga, entering the employ of the Consolidated Water Company. At first he had charge of the pipelines in the oil fields, but his ability to fill a manager's position soon became evident and in 1909 he was appointed superintendent of the entire plant, and so efficiently has he discharged his duties that he still holds the same position. The company sank its first well in 1903, and subsequently its second well was ready, then pipes were laid into the oil fields and in 1909 three more wells were sunk to a depth of 250 feet. This company is equipped with a large pumping plant having a capacity of over 3,500 barrels daily. The water is distributed to all parts of the Eastern and Western sides of the oil fields.

Mr. Griffin is an active worker for the upbuilding of the West Side and has been particularly anxious for good roads. After nine years of agitation his dream is to be fulfilled as the State Highway is being constructed to Coalinga.

Wade Griffin is a very popular man and is highly esteemed in the city of Coalinga for his sterling character and unquestioned integrity. Fraternally, he is an Odd Fellow holding membership with the Maypearl Lodge, No. 149, at Maypearl, Tex., and is also affiliated with the Eagles at Coalinga.



Wade Griffin

MOSES PAUL MOSESIAN.—Two and one-half miles southeast of Parlier lies the Mosesian vineyard and ranch, consisting of 340 acres. Its superintendent and manager, Moses P., is the son of Paul Mosesian of Fresno, owner of the Mosesian ranch and a large dealer in real estate, who has bought and sold thousands of acres of land in Fresno and Tulare Counties, and has been instrumental in assisting his countrymen in the subdivision of large tracts for private vineyardists and horticulturists, making it possible for them to acquire ranches and homes on time payments and at reasonable terms.

Moses P. Mosesian is a native of Armenia, born at Harpoot, June 17, 1894, the oldest in a family of five children, and the only one of them born in Armenia. His father, Paul Mosesian, was born in Armenia, near Harpoot, March 21, 1870, and while living in his native country made his living as a trader and from the income of a small farm. As a young man he came to America and for two years worked in Boston. He then returned to Harpoot and was married to Tworoida Garabedian. After the birth of their oldest child, Mr. Mosesian returned to America, leaving his wife and baby in the old country, and found employment in a shoe factory at Boston, and by strict attention to business rose to the position of head cutter. At the time of the Alaska gold fever he and a fellow-workman resolved to seek their fortunes in the gold fields of that region, and, going to San Francisco, they took passage for the "Klondike." When the journey was about half completed Mr. Mosesian was taken seriously ill, forcing him to return to San Francisco. On arrival he had but ninety-four dollars left, so he sought employment at any kind of work available. Times were stringent and it was difficult to keep employed. Under these discouraging conditions he met a fellow-countryman who had been in Fresno County and whose glowing description of its future possibilities decided Mr. Mosesian to try his luck here. Resolved to own land and have a home, in 1900 he bargained for 320 acres of practically unimproved land near Parlier. To this acreage he later added twenty acres and his efforts have been successful in making this a splendid property. After establishing himself on the ranch he was joined by his wife and son. At the time he purchased the ranch the raisin and fruit growing qualities of the valley had not been fully demonstrated. Going to work with a will, he set out two zinfandel vineyards of twenty and fifty acres respectively. The vines grew luxuriantly and Mr. Mosesian soon launched in the wine making industry, prospering beyond his most sanguine expectations. After a few years the price of wine grapes fell below nine dollars per ton and under these discouraging conditions he was forced to experiment in grafting the vines over to Thompson's seedless for the purpose of making raisins. The results were so good that the next year he grafted, in the same manner, the fifty-acre vineyard. In addition to the seventy acres grafted over he has 180 acres planted to muscats in full bearing; also thirty-six acres of malaga table grapes. For the last three years those in full bearing have yielded from twelve to fifteen tons per acre. In 1917 his best table grapes brought one dollar sixty-five cents per vine—a most extraordinary record.

Mr. Mosesian's acquaintance in Boston enabled him to lay the foundation for a large trade in raisins and table grapes in the New England markets. After the war began it became difficult to obtain refrigerator cars at the proper time, and in 1917 he lost twenty car loads of fruit that practically rotted for want of timely transportation. It was this that caused him to erect the new fire-proof, concrete and brick packing-house and cold storage plant on the Santa Fe reservation in Fresno. The building consists of two stories and a basement and is 150x275 feet in dimension with a frontage of 275 feet on the Santa Fe switch. It was built in accordance with plans outlined by Mr. Mosesian and his son Moses.

Although a private shipper, Mr. Mosesian is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. His many years of effort has built up an extensive demand for his goods in the East and he has studied to place them on the eastern market in the most attractive and best possible shape. His label, the celebrated "State Center" line, commands a premium of one and a half per cent. over and above regular prices. He has reduced the packing business to a science. Not a grape is wasted, the bruised and inferior grapes are made into horse feed, which has proved to be a very nutritious food for work horses and mules.

Mr. Mosesian owns sixty acres east of Fresno on Locan Avenue, which is devoted to the growing and propagating of a rare and most excellent variety of table grape known as the Servian blue grape, which was brought from Servia to Fresno in 1914 by Steve Baker, a Slavonian and an expert grape grower. Mr. Baker found this variety of grape while on a visit to the old country, and he brought enough cuttings back to Fresno with him to plant sixteen acres by planting every fourth hill and propagating the two intervening hills by runners put under ground at proper distances. Its branches are large and long and the individual grape is nearly as large as a French prune. Mr. Mosesian saved enough cuttings to plant 160 acres in 1919. Mr. Mosesian buys fruits, raisins, etc., at Kingsburg, Parlier, Clotho and Fresno, in which places he also has packing houses. The Mosesian Packing House at Parlier is being rebuilt to twice its former size and capacity. Mr. Mosesian is a stockholder and director in the Parlier Winery and the River Bend Gas and Water Company. He has a comfortable home at No. 1146 "R" Street, Fresno, where he resides. His children are: Moses P.; Mary; Suren; Louise; and Bernice.

Moses has, since boyhood, taken an interest in viticulture, horticulture and everything pertaining to the ranch. He had the advantages of the common school, supplementing this with one year in Heald's Business College. His father's business had become so extensive in 1913 that there was imperative need for Moses to assume the superintendency of the Mosesian ranch, and since then he has given his entire time to its management, bringing it up to a standard of excellence which challenges wide attention. Twenty-five men are regularly employed on this ranch and in the harvest, the force is increased to 150. Eighteen head of stock, and one eighteen horse-power Holt tractor furnish the motive power for its cultivation. A gasoline engine pumps water for stock and domestic purposes, while a sixty horse-power pumping plant is ever in reserve for irrigation. The ranch is under the Consolidated Ditch. The ranch is fringed with a row of Adriatic fig trees and between this row of figs and the field of vines is planted a row of peach trees. This produces an artistic effect and furnishes also a wind break for the vines as well as being a considerable source of revenue.

In 1914 Moses P. Mosesian was married to Miss Marie Merzoian of Fresno, and they are the parents of two children, William and Lillian.

In his religious inclinations Mr. Mosesian is a Catholic. His wife is a Presbyterian in her religious convictions, and his parents still cling to the Gregorian Church.

ERROLL C. KITTRELL.—A successful and promising farmer of Fresno County, is Erroll C. Kittrell of the Barstow Colony, a native son, born in Fresno, on September 17, 1889. His father was William J. Kittrell, who was born in the Sacramento Valley and became one of the early settlers of Fresno, having been for a while in the post office there. Then for twenty years he was in the Fresno Agricultural Works, where he acted as manager. Now he is in the real estate business in Fresno, his reputation for integrity and judgment going far to influence the would-be customer. Mrs. Kittrell was Ella M. Vezey before her marriage, and she was a native daughter, her birthplace being near Modesto.

Erroll, an only child, was educated in the public schools of Fresno and the Fresno high school, which he attended until his junior year, when he went east to the Kemper Military School at Boonville, Mo., from which he was graduated in 1909. On his return to Fresno, he clerked three years in the hardware store of Barrett & Hicks, then he went to Lemoore to take charge of the hardware department of W. L. Scally, returning to Fresno in a year to enter the employ of H. Graff & Company in their hardware department.

A year later he engaged in business for himself and started a hardware store on Merced Street between J and I Streets in what was known as the Kittrell Building. At the end of eighteen months, however, he sold out to take up farming. He bought his present place of eighty acres and was soon busy setting out a vineyard and an orchard. He also has twenty-five acres in alfalfa under the Herndon Canal and an eighty-foot well. There are ten acres of Thompson seedless grapes, and forty acres in peaches, muir and lovells being the specialty. He is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and of the California Associated Raisin Company.

In Fresno, Mr. Kittrell was married to Miss Hazel Hague, a native of Fresno who grew up and was educated there, and one child, William Madison Kittrell, blessed the fortunate marriage. Mr. Kittrell is a Democrat in national politics, and an ardent supporter of every worthy movement for local improvement. He was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M.

AUGUST DIEL.—A fine example of the successful merchant is August Diel of Fresno, who was born in Skadofsky, Samara, Russia, on September 24, 1866. His father, Henry Diel, was a farmer who died there; while his mother, who was Mary Schwabenland before her marriage, came to Fresno with August Diel, and died here. She was the mother of four boys and a girl; of these, the four sons grew up and two are now living.

August Diel is the only one in the United States, for two brothers, Henry and Frederick D., who came to Fresno, died here. The second eldest, August Diel grew up on a farm and attended the common schools, after which he did military service, enlisting when twenty-one in the Russian Infantry and serving there four years. He thus saw service at Sebastopol, and received at the end an honorable discharge. He was married to Miss Louise Karle, also a native of the same district; and followed farming for some time in his native land.

In 1899 Mr. Diel came to Fresno, and soon after helped take out the horse line. He also helped build the first electric car line here, a task of several years. Then he worked at ranching, with the same degree of success.

In partnership with his brother Henry, Mr. Diel formed the firm of Diel Brothers and they had a store on South F Street until the brother died, in 1912, when he bought out his interest and continued there until 1915. Then he purchased the corner at Kirk Street and Florence Avenue, and built his present store building. He also built a residence. He opened his store with a fine stock of general merchandise, such as dry goods, boots, shoes, hardware, groceries and meats, and the standard he then set he has ever since maintained. He is a Republican in national politics, and an ex-trustee of the Free Evangelical Lutheran Cross Church.

Nine children blessed the union of this happy couple, and eight are now living. Henry was a member of Company B of the Third Oregon Infantry, and served on the border during the Mexican trouble. He returned to Fresno and was honorably discharged. On July 16, 1917, he enlisted in the First California Machine Gun Troop, and was at Camp Kearney six months and then at Camp Johnson three months. He was stationed in Philadelphia four months, and then sent to the Central C. O. T. S. at Camp Lee, Va; and when the armistice was signed, he was commissioned a second lieutenant, and was honorably discharged.

THEODORE E. ERICKSON.—Among the enterprising vineyardists of Vinland, Theodore E. Erickson, the owner of a twenty-acre ranch on Vinland, corner of Shaw Avenue, is especially mentioned as a successful grower of malaga and Thompson seedless grapes. He is a native of Westmanland, Sweden, born on October 24, 1884. His father, Eric Johnson, emigrated to the United States in 1902, settling at Wylie, Red Lake County, Minn., where he bought land and engaged in farming until his death in 1913. His mother, Minnie Johnson, is still living and resides in Wylie, Minn. She was the mother of eight children, Theodore E. being the fourth child. He was reared on a farm and when twenty-one years of age engaged in stock-raising and farming on the old home place.

In 1905, Mr. Erickson became interested, with his brother August, in a twenty-acre ranch at Vinland, Fresno County, Cal. He became anxious to leave the rigorous climate of Minnesota and to locate on his California ranch where he could enjoy the sunny southland of the Golden State. In three years' time he sold out his interests in Minnesota and moved to California, locating at Vinland in 1908. He improved the ranch and later purchased his brother's interest. Afterwards, Mr. Erickson still continued to develop and improve the place and engaged in dairying. He set out an orchard of peaches, Elbertas and clings; and planted a vineyard of eight acres to Thompson seedless and malaga grapes.

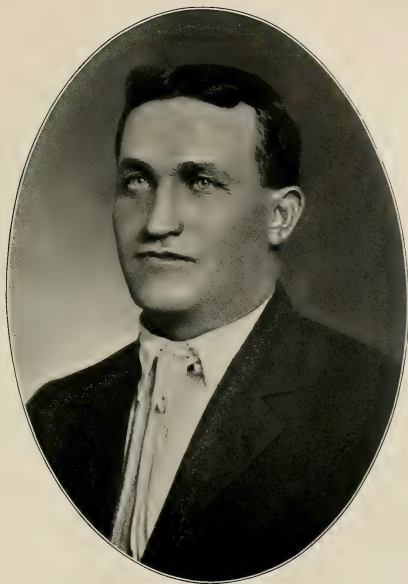
Mr. Erickson has been very successful in conducting his ranch and is regarded as a very well posted man in the science of viticulture and one who believes in using the most progressive methods in the operation of his vineyard. He is interested in every movement for the advancement of the viticultural and horticultural interests of the county, and most naturally he belongs to both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. Politically, he supports the doctrine of Democracy in national affairs.

ALBERT V. GLOUGIE.—A close observer and a thoroughly wide-awake man, who has amassed a fund of valuable experience, particularly in the best methods of farming, and who has improved many acres by bringing them under intensive cultivation, is A. V. Glougie, who first came to Fresno County in January, 1902. He was born in Austin, Minn., in 1866, and was reared in Adams, Iowa. His father, John R. Glougie, was of French extraction, and was born at Belvidere, Vt. His mother was Martha Hull before her marriage; she was also a native of Vermont and was united to Mr. Glougie in her native state. During the Civil War, John Glougie was in a Vermont regiment of the Union Army, served two years and eleven months, and was wounded at the Battle of the Wilderness. Later he came to Austin, Minn., and went in for farming; and in 1871 he secured a farm in Adams County. Finally, the parents came on to Fresno, and here the father died, while the mother resides on Blackstone Avenue, the mother of thirteen children, nine of whom are living.

A. V. Glougie is the oldest of these, and was brought up on a farm in Iowa, at the same time that he attended the public schools. He continued at home assisting his father, and married in Adams County, choosing Miss Lizzie Ammond, a native of Adams County, as his bride. He bought a farm of new prairie land on which he was the first to break land and later he bought more land and soon had a fine farm.

In January, 1902, he came to California and located near Parlier; and after a year he moved to Sanger where he bought eighty acres of new land, and devoted it to alfalfa, leveling and checking, and also setting out a vineyard. He bought other lands and owned other vineyards and orchards. He had a lemon and an orange orchard, and did well.

The year 1911 found Mr. Glougie near Brawley in the Imperial Valley, where he engaged in ranching, having sold his Fresno interests; and there he made a specialty of raising hogs. In a year he sold out and returned to



J. E. Erickson

Fresno County. He bought a ranch at Barstow and sold it, and then he bought a ranch on Fillmore Avenue and sold that. Next he bought forty acres on California Avenue, eleven miles west of Fresno; this he improved, and he raises alfalfa and figs, making one of the finest showings in that section.

Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Glougie. Francis resides at Fresno; Blanche, who had become Mrs. Rudolph Garber, died in 1916 in her twenty-sixth year; Bernice is Mrs. Carter Anderson of Madera County; and Vernon is at home.

In national politics Mr. Glougie is a Republican; but he deems it his duty as an independent citizen to support good local measures irrespective of party obligations, and so he works for a constantly higher standard in civic affairs.

JULIUS H. DAHLKE.—A native of Germany, J. H. Dahlke was born near Berlin, on September 6, 1872, the son of August Dahlke, who had married Minnie Lange; and when Julius was only eight years old, his parents came to America and settled in Hamilton County, Nebr., in which state he grew up. There were seven children in the family—five boys and two girls—and Julius was the third in the order of birth. He is the only one of the family in California.

He attended the public schools and was reared on his father's stock farm; and while still in Nebraska, married twice. His first wife was Miss Augusta Ahlmann, who died at the birth of her only child, Irene, who is still living. The second Mrs. Dahlke was Miss Sadie Edmonston, a native of Ireland, and by her he has had six children. Raymond is at home and runs the tractor; Glenn is a lad of sixteen; and there are Irma, Leah, Lula and Masel.

Going to Grand Island, Nebr., Mr. Dahlke took up the carpenter and builder's trade, and later embarked in the furniture business, in which line he continued until he came to California. In May, 1912, he arrived in Oakland, and there went to work for a dealer in new and second-hand furniture.

The same year, also, Mr. Dahlke came out to Hardwick, in Kings County, four miles southeast of Laton, where he became the foreman for Height & Hall, on a large stock grain ranch. This he managed successfully for a year, until the owners sold it. Then he leased the Davis Ranch at Dos Palos.

While at Hardwick, he had made the acquaintance of the late L. P. Denney; and when the latter offered him the foremanship, two and a half years ago, of the Summit Lake Ranch, he accepted the responsibility and at once entered upon the interesting and promising work. He had been in charge just seven months, and had brought everything into working order when Mr. Denney came to his tragic death; and since then he has continued as the ranch foreman, under the direction of Mr. Frank Hight, the administrator of the estate, and by order of the court.

Mr. Dahlke is a Republican and takes a live interest in civic affairs and in politics. He is an advocate of local reforms and supports, regardless of party lines, any movement for the improvement of the neighborhood. Mrs. Dahlke shares his interests and his ambitions, and the children attend the Crescent School.

FRED SCHEIDT.—A successful business man who is equally prosperous in his ventures in horticulture and viticulture is Fred Scheidt, a native of Samara, Stepania, Russia, where he was born on May 22, 1871. His father was George Scheidt, a farmer, who spent his life there, and there were six children in the family, of whom Fred was the fifth in the order of birth.

He was brought up on a farm and educated in German and Russian schools, but in December, 1890, he left home for Baltimore where he arrived on the following New Year Day. At Parkersburg, W. Va., he remained seven months, and then he removed to Cincinnati, where he lived and worked for seven years. For six years he was employed by the Cincinnati Lithograph Company, and then he went to Kansas.

In July, 1898, Mr. Scheidt came to Fresno and accepted employment with the Southern Pacific Railroad. He did not like the work, however, and after six days he entered the service of the Earl Fruit Company. At the end of the season he went with the Griffin & Skelly Fruit Company, and having been with them two years, he took up his residence in Hamilton and worked for the Sugar Beet Company there. He contracted with the company to raise sugar-beets, but at the end of the season he came back to Fresno. He worked for Otto Nestel for six years, and then for seven years was with George Kaehler.

During 1913, Mr. Scheidt bought out George Christian's grocery store at 440 F Street, where he continued the grocery business. Four years later he bought a ranch of thirty-two and a half acres, two and a half miles northwest of Clovis, and he now has one of the finest peach orchards and vineyards of Thompson seedless and malaga grapes, all developed under his personal supervision. He makes his residence with his family on the place. Such was his exceptional success, that he was sought by both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

While in Cincinnati, Mr. Scheidt was married to Miss Margaret Walter, a native of Madison, Ind., whose parents settled in Indiana in 1848. Ten of their children are living. Matilda is the wife of C. Hunton of Fresno, a volunteer in the United States Army, serving in France; George is also in the United States Army; Anna, Eduard, William, Emma, Alfred, Elsie, Gussie and Arthur are at home.

Mr. Scheidt is a welcome member of the Eagles.

WILLIAM GARRIGAN.—An interesting oil man of many years varied experience not only in different fields in the United States but also in Borneo, is William Garrigan, who came to California in 1895. He was born at Belmont, Alleghany County, N. Y., on September 22, 1868, the son of Thomas Garrigan, a native of Erie, Pa., who came to the Golden State as a lumberman about 1860, and here worked for a while as a shingle-sawyer. Then he returned to New York and was married to Belle Cartwright, a daughter of that state. After that he was engaged in the oil business in Pennsylvania as a contractor and driller until 1890 when he came to California. He settled at Newhall with the Coast Oil Company, and later went into the Kern River field. There he retired, and eventually died at Fullerton. Mrs. Garrigan died at Redwood City, the mother of two children.

William, the oldest and the only child of this union now living, attended the public school and at fifteen began work in the oil industry, entering the employ of the Emory Oil Company at Bradford. He commenced at the bottom rung of the ladder in 1882, and for three years was a pumper. Then, for eighteen months, he dressed tools for James Nottenberger, a contractor, and about January, 1887, when nineteen, he enlisted in the fourth United States Cavalry, and was stationed, first at San Carlos, Ariz., then at Fort Wingate, N. M.; and afterward at Fort Union, at which place, at the end of three years he was mustered out and honorably discharged.

Returning to Pennsylvania, he again took up tool-dressing, and then worked as a driller; and this he continued to do until April, 1895, when he came to California. For a while he was with the Pacific Coast Oil Company as a tool-dresser, and then as a driller in the Newhall field, staying there four years; next the same company sent him to San Mateo County to drill three wells; and after a year he went back to their Newhall field.

In 1901 he resigned and came to Coalinga, where he drilled for the Oil City Petroleum Company on Section 28; and then he worked for various companies as a driller. He was with the Turner Oil Company, and about 1914 was in the employ of the Anglo-Saxon Petroleum Company. This company sent him to Borneo, as cement man; and he was the last eighteen months in Brunai. He remained there until 1916, when he resigned and returned to

California. Then he came to Coalinga, with the Coalinga Mohawk as driller; and since 1917 he has been with the Southern Pacific in the fuel-oil department and is now holding the position of drilling foreman in the Coalinga field.

While at Newhall, July 19, 1899, Mr. Garrigan was married to Margaret Stickler, a native of Aurora, Ore., by whom he has two children—Lloyd and Ruth. He was made a Mason in Welcome Lodge, No. 255, F. & A. M., at Lemoore but is now a member of Coalinga Lodge, No. 387, F. & A. M. He is a member of Coalinga Chapter R. A. M. and Hanford Commandery K. T., and with his wife is a member of Eschscholtzia Chapter, No. 270, O. E. S., of which Mrs. Garrigan is Past Matron. Mr. Garrigan is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. Elks. Mrs. Garrigan has been Guardian Neighbor of the Neighbors of Woodcraft since its organization and is a member of Auxiliary, No. 2, of the Coalinga Chapter of the Red Cross.

A. H. KHAZOYAN.—The story of the success of three Armenian brothers, all sadly afflicted in the dire misfortune of their near of kin who have been victims of savagery in the recent war, is linked with that of the scholarly, progressive, public-spirited and generous-hearted rancher, A. H. Khazoyan, who is blessed with helpmate distinguished as a wife, mother and citizen. He was born at Harpoot, in Armenia, on March 3, 1879, the son of Rev. Hagop Khazoyan, a minister and missionary, concerning whom it is reported that he was massacred by the Turks, in his eightieth year. Mrs. Khazoyan was Mary Melcon before her marriage, and she died in July, 1917, when she was sixty-seven years old. Twelve children were born to this very worthy couple, and of these five sisters died in Armenia, a brother died in infancy, another brother was massacred, and a sister was married in Armenia to a soldier who was serving in the Turkish army when this war broke out. His absence from home left her unprotected, and it cannot be found out whether she also has been murdered or is still living. The eldest brother, long living in South America, is a dry goods merchant at San Paulo, Brazil; while the Rev. H. H. Khazoyan organized an Armenian Church, of the Congregational denomination, in New York City, and is one-third owner, with Benjamin H. and the subject of our instructive sketch, of the Khazoyan ranch two and a half miles southwest of Parlier. He preached for seven years, when an affection of the throat compelled him to resign from his devoted flock. Benjamin, a tailor, is working at present for the Government, in the tailoring department of the Army.

A. H. Khazoyan attended the schools in Armenia, and was early baptized into the Congregational Church there and reared in the refined atmosphere of its social and religious life, having become acquainted with some American Congregational missionaries. From them he learned English, and in 1909 he came to the United States, landing in New York City on July 1. Previously, in 1898, he had been married at Harpoot to Rose Stephan, a native of Ichma, a pretty place about eighteen miles southeast of Harpoot, but he crossed the ocean without her and the four children blessing their union, and the first news that he received from home was that a fifth child had been born since his departure. While at Pasadena, after Mrs. Khazoyan had joined him in America, still another child was born to them, and later a seventh and youngest has come to give joy to the ranch circle.

Stopping for a week in New York, Mr. Khazoyan continued his journey by making a bee-line for Southern California and arrived in the City of the Angels on July 13, 1909. He had been a cabinetmaker by trade in Armenia, and for a couple of years found work as a cabinetmaker in Los Angeles. He then became a clerk in the store of his brother, H. H. Khazoyan, in the same city, and sold Oriental rugs; but in 1914 he came to the Selma section and bought, with his brothers, the 120 acres referred to, almost at the same time identifying himself with the good work of the Raisin Growers

Association. He is now in charge of the Khazoyan ranch, which is the joint property of the firm known as Khazoyan Bros., and which, as one of the choice farm-properties of this region, is subdivided as follows: Eighty acres are unimproved, eighteen are devoted to malaga grapes, eighteen are in Thompson seedless; five are taken up with the ditch, and the balance is used for yards and similar purposes.

Their seven children are the pride and delight of Mr. and Mrs. Khazoyan: Helen is the eldest, then come Eunice, Esther, Mary, Lucy, and Rosa, while the youngest is Roberta.

CHRISTOPHER SMELLEY.—An old-timer in California, and for more than thirty years a rancher in Fresno County, Christopher Smelley has won the esteem and respect of a wide circle of friends who value his friendship for its real worth. He was born near Paris, Texas, in 1866, a son of John T. Smelley, who enlisted in the Confederate Army from Alabama, served through the war and then located in Texas, where he died soon afterwards. His wife, before her marriage was Mary Horn, and after the death of Mr. Smelley, she married again. Later, on account of the harsh treatment received from his step-father, young Chris left home at a tender age and went into western Texas where he found a home with some people who were kind to him. He was reared in the family of Thomas Woods, in McClellan County, became familiar with the stock business and rode the range with other cow-boys. His schooling was limited to about three weeks until he was twenty-one years old, then he started to get an education, realizing that to make a success in life, such an adjunct was very necessary. He paid his way with the money he had earned on the range, matriculated at the preparatory school of the Waco University, attending until his money gave out.

This was a turning point in the life of this energetic young man, for he came to California to make another stake, then go back and complete his courses. This was in 1887, and he went to work for Joe Prather at Caruthers, remaining about seven years, when Mr. Prather suffered from the panicky times, "went broke," and did not have enough money with which to pay his help. Christopher Smelley took a horse and wagon as part pay, went down into the Helm section and began farming on his own account by leasing 500 acres, having as a partner Theo. Campbell. He rented for one year and then was so successful that he began to buy land, which he farmed besides renting large areas from time to time. He owns 303 acres of good farming land, rents 160 more upon which he raises grain, wheat and barley, and has met with more than a moderate degree of success.

Mr. Smelley is still a bachelor, is a hard worker, an interesting talker, and by the methods he employs has shown his good judgment in the cultivation and operation of his broad acres. He is public-spirited and in the crisis of the great World War supported every loan drive and other war charities to the best of his ability. In politics he is a Democrat and is a staunch supporter of the present administration. While he regrets that he has been unable to complete his education as he had set out to do, still he is thankful that his lot has been cast in such a pleasant place as Fresno County.

JOHN YOUNG SPENCE.—A successful California viticulturist is John Young Spence, a native son who was born in the Scandinavian Colony, in Fresno County, on August 9, 1888. He is the son of Alexander D. Spence, a native of the Orkney Islands, Scotland, and a university-trained man who married, at Dumfermline, Miss Christiana Young. He was a professor of languages at the Dollar Academy in Dollar, Scotland, and having become interested in Fresno County lands, he came to the United States and California, bringing his wife and six children.

He arrived here about 1882 and located on twenty acres in the Scandinavian Colony, and there he followed viticulture until his death, ten years later. His good wife passed away in 1909, the mother of eight children, three of whom are still living. One son, now deceased, was William Spence, the



R. W. Weldon

editor of the Sun Maid Herald, and he died in December, 1918. An older brother is David Spence, with the California Associated Raisin Company, while a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, resides near Clovis.

The lad John was educated at the public schools of the Scandinavian district and the Fresno High School, and from a boy became interested in viticulture. As early as 1904, he and his brothers, William and David, purchased land in the Garfield district, and improved a fine vineyard, raising it from a mere stubble-field to a well-leveled tract, on which were set out the choicest of malaga, muscat and Thompson seedless grapes, as well as five acres of olives. He and his brother and sister now own eighty acres in vineyard and orchard, the firm being incorporated as the Spence Vineyard Company, with David A. Spence as manager. The Spence Vineyard is historically interesting as it was one of the first set out in this locality.

Growing up to manhood amid the blessings of the American Republic and the comforts and luxuries of the Golden State, it was natural that Mr. Spence should develop a tiptop patriotism; so that it is not surprising that he was among the first twenty-five men who left Fresno in the first draft for the Great War. He volunteered for the first five per cent. of the draft in September, 1917, and was in the 364th Infantry at Camp Lewis. On May 15, 1918, he entered the fourth officers' training camp, and on August 25 was commissioned a second lieutenant. On January 10, 1919, he was honorably discharged and returned home, to again take up work in the Spence Vineyards.

The Spence brothers are members of the Melvin Grape Growers Association and the California Associated Raisin Company, in both of which organizations they are active in promoting those movements making for the broad and substantial development of California agricultural interests.

Mr. Spence is a member of the Fresno Lodge, No. 439, B. P. O. Elks.

ROBERT W. WELDON.—Nestling among the foothills of the Sierras in Watts and Burroughs Valleys lie the ranches of Robert W. Weldon, a very successful cattle-grower of Fresno County, who is making a specialty of Hereford cattle. He was born in Denton County, Texas, on December 27, 1871, a son of A. J. and Martha (Lindsey) Weldon, natives of Boone County, Mo., and Alabama, respectively. During the Civil War A. J. Weldon served under General Price, afterward moving to Texas where he engaged in raising cattle. In 1886 he removed with his family to Fresno, Cal., and followed grain-ranching in the Red Bank district, after which he set out a vineyard near Centerville, eventually moving to Santa Cruz, where he resided eight years and then returned to Fresno County. His death occurred in Clovis and in that place his widow still resides. Eight children were born to this worthy couple, all of whom are living, Robert W. being the second in order of birth.

Robert W. received a good education in the public schools of Texas. In 1886 he came to Fresno and immediately went to work aiding his father at grain-ranching, at which he was steadily employed until twenty-two years of age, when he acquired a farming outfit and leased land east of Clovis and raised grain until the land was cut up into smaller tracts and sold. He then purchased forty acres one mile east of Clovis which he devoted to vineyard, orchard and alfalfa, until November, 1901. He had always had a desire to own a ranch and raise cattle, so in that year he purchased a ranch of 800 acres in Burroughs Valley, on which he located and then began the stock business in which he has been so successful. He has added to the place which now comprises over 1,200 acres, and he also owns a ranch of 760 acres in the lower part of Watts Valley, and a 900-acre ranch in the upper part of Watts Valley, onto which he moved in 1917 and where he is making his home, having built a modern residence and made permanent improvements. He has fields of alfalfa irrigated from the headwaters of Watts Creek, making it a splendid stock-ranch, as well as very sightly. He devotes his different ranches to raising cattle, horses and hogs. After experimenting with different breeds of cattle he found the Herefords suited his purpose best and were

the most profitable, so he purchased and brought the first full-blooded Herefords into the Valley and since then has been bringing in others until he has a fine herd of pure-bred and high-grade Herefords, in which he can justly take pride. His summer range is at the headwaters of Big Creek in the National Forest Reserve.

At the Boucher home, near Clovis, on December 20, 1893, Mr. Weldon was married to Lottie Boucher, who was born near Suisun, Solano County, the daughter of C. H. Boucher, one of the early settlers of the Clovis section in Fresno County, and two children have been born of this union: Cecil R., who is an able assistant to his father, and Mildred Barbara.

Interested in the cause of education, Mr. Weldon has served as member and clerk of the board of trustees in Mountain View district for fourteen years. He is a member of the Christian Church, while Mrs. Weldon is a Presbyterian. Mr. and Mrs. Weldon are public-spirited and progressive citizens of the County, and are well known and highly esteemed.

GEORGE M. TUTTLE.—A good farmer, horseman and cattleman, and an equally good, patriotic citizen is George M. Tuttle, the foreman of the Silvera alfalfa ranch. He was born at Shelbyville, Ill., on February 3, 1872, the son of Elisha Tuttle, a native of Douglas County, Ill., who was engaged in teaming at Shelbyville. He was a loyal citizen of the old-fashioned type, and during the Civil War served in Company K. One Hundred Fifteenth Illinois Volunteer Infantry. And in Illinois, in 1915, he passed to his eternal reward. Mrs. Tuttle was Elizabeth Parryman, a daughter of Illinois; and she died in 1908, the mother of seven children, two of whom are still living.

George was the second oldest of these, and he was brought up in the town of his birth, where he attended the public school of the neighborhood. Later, he engaged in coal mining for several years. Then he was apprenticed to the moulders' trade, at Dayton, Ohio, giving to that experience eighteen months; and afterward he was in the Shelbyville foundry for a few years. The strike of 1908 brought work to a standstill, but it led to his taking one of the most decisive steps of his life.

Looking over the field of opportunity in general, Mr. Tuttle concluded to come to California; and in 1909 he journeyed to Fresno. He was not fortunate in finding an opening as a moulder; but he secured employment on the ranch of W. H. Dillon, who raised alfalfa and had a fine vineyard, and he remained with him for a year and a half. Then he was in the employ of R. N. Barstow and helped run his alfalfa ranch; and in 1914 he was made foreman, a post of much responsibility. Here Mr. Tuttle had charge of 260 acres, most of which was devoted to alfalfa, but twenty acres of which were given up to a vineyard and a stock ranch. In August, 1918, Mr. Tuttle accepted the position as foreman of the Silvera ranch at Tranquillity, where he has supervision of 285 acres, and raises alfalfa and mules.

Sociable by nature, and fond of society, Mr. Tuttle joined both the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias at Shelbyville, and he has continued his affiliation with those fraternal organizations. No better and more public-spirited citizen could anywhere be found; in national politics Mr. Tuttle is a Democrat, but in local affairs he joins with his neighbors in "boosting" whatever is best. He served on the Grand Jury in 1918.

JASPER A. BANKS.—A very wide-awake merchant, whose business is constantly increased because of his personal popularity, is Jasper A. Banks, the experienced tobacconist at Friant. His father was Willis Banks, a Kentuckian who, when there was need of his military services, joined the ranks of the Home Guard Army and did his full duty without a thought of the sacrifice. He had been from youth a farmer; had moved to Illinois, and then pushed on to Kansas. He came to California first in 1849, engaged with varying success in mining; and after two years, went back to Illinois. J. A. Banks was born at Columbus, Adams County, Ill., March 6, 1852 and when a lad of

only nine years, moved with his parents to Crawford County, Kans., enjoying the adventures common to such an experience at that time; and there he grew up to manhood, remaining until he was twenty-two years of age. Then he came out to California in 1874, directing his course to Kern County, then for six years he was in Sonoma County.

In 1881 Mr. Banks moved to Fresno County and located in Auberry Valley. He bought land, went into stock raising, and until 1908 gave his best efforts to producing the highest average breed. In that year he sold out and came to Friant, where he embarked in the grocery trade. In the following year, Mr. Banks established his cigar and tobacco store; and in this line of trade he has succeeded beyond his expectations. He has also retained interest in stock, cattle and hogs, and some of his investments yield as they should when intelligence, foresight and experience are back of the deal.

Willis Banks, Jasper's father, returned to California in 1876 and located in Fresno County; and here, living with his children, he died, two years later. Mrs. Banks, who had been Eveline Thomas before her marriage, was a native Kentuckian, and in that State she was married. She had fourteen children—seven boys and seven girls; and Jasper was the eighth child born.

Mr. Banks has been twice married. The first ceremony occurred in 1881 in Kern County, when the bride was Bell Davis, a native daughter, by whom he had one child, Lola Bell who married L. C. Mussleman and is living in Fresno. His first wife died in 1883. In 1888, Mr. Banks was married to Mrs. Polly (Blair) Dillwood, born on Grand Island, whose parents were Thos. and Lucy Blair, early settlers of Contra Costa County in the fifties, later of Auberry Valley, Fresno County, where they died. Mrs. Banks received her education in Fresno County, and by her former marriage she had two children, one living, Ray, who is with the Standard Oil Company at Richmond. Democrats in politics, Mr. and Mrs. Banks are members of the Christian Church.

ALFRED MODINE.—The subject of this review, Alfred Modine, is a native of Sweden, being born on February 19, 1862, at Langaryd Socken, Smaaland, Sweden, a son of Andrew and Sarah Modine, who were the parents of four children, Alfred being next to the youngest; Lewis, his oldest brother, resides on the old home place in Sweden; Swen is a farmer and lives in Sweden; and Annie is the widow of Alfred Swanson and resides in the homeland.

Alfred Modine was reared on his father's farm in Sweden, and was the first member of the family to immigrate to the United States, where he arrived in 1883, and after a brief stay at Diamond Lake, Mich., he settled at Assaria, Saline County, Kans., and secured employment as a farm hand, continuing at such work for about six years, being paid by the month. During the winter season he worked for as little as six dollars per month, yet by thrifty habits, so characteristic of his fellow countrymen, he was enabled to save money.

In 1892, Alfred Modine returned to his native land and while there was united in marriage with Emma Charlotte Nyquist, returning to Kansas the same year with his bride. For four years he rented a farm at Assaria, subsequently purchasing a farm of 240 acres at Lindsborg, where he successfully engaged in farming until 1915, when he received such an excellent offer for his Kansas ranch that he sold it and removed to the Golden State, settling one mile north of Kingsburg, Fresno County. He purchased the C. G. Stone place on Grant Avenue, in the Kingsburg Colony.

Previous to buying his ranch at Kingsburg, Mr. Modine had made several trips to the Pacific Coast country to see the land and investigate the agricultural and horticultural conditions in California, and after very careful consideration decided that Fresno County was the best place for him to locate. Mr. Modine has always been a very industrious and thrifty farmer, and by hard work, untiring efforts and intelligent management of his Kansas

ranch he accumulated considerable means, and having had to work very hard to secure a financial start, now that he is comfortably provided for, he enjoys life and values money for the good it can bring him and his family. His home in California abounds in comforts and conveniences and his family are happy in the enjoyment of their new environment. Mr. Modine has made three trips to Sweden, and during the summer of 1917 he made an extended trip through the Middle West, visiting relatives in Minneapolis, Minn. His ranch at Kingsburg consists of forty acres and is devoted to raising peaches and raisin grapes. The property is regarded as one of the most valuable of its size in the Kingsburg Colony, being improved with a brick residence, good barns, tank house and pumping plant.

Mr. and Mrs. Modine are the parents of four children: John A., residing at home, is an ex-soldier, having been discharged from duty owing to physical disability; Selma, who is a graduate of a business college at Lindsborg, Kans.; Hjalmar, who married Mary Rodgers, and they reside in Kingsburg; and Carl, living at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Modine are members of the Swedish Mission Church at Kingsburg. Although but recent comers to the county and state, the Modines have already made many friends, are highly esteemed in the community, and have been warmly welcomed into the Kingsburg Colony.

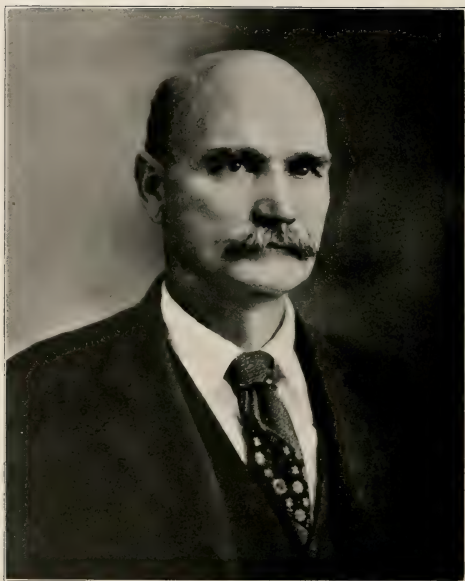
OTTO VENTER.—An up-to-date, public-spirited and progressive young man, who has set the best example by his intelligent industry and on more than one occasion has demonstrated his pluck, energy and indomitable will, is Otto Venter, who is now improving a ranch of eighty acres two miles northeast of Caruthers. He was born in St. Clair County, Mo., on September 3, 1879, the son of William Franklin Venter, a native of Indiana, who married Miss Annie Bossert, also a native of the Hoosier State, the ceremony taking place in Missouri, where they afterward farmed. The parents, honored by all who know them, are now living on their fruit ranch of eighteen acres in the Parlier district, not far from their three children. F. L. Venter is a rancher who owns twenty acres devoted to fruit, two miles south of Parlier; Otto, the second-born, is the subject of our sketch; and Dolly V. is the wife of J. C. McClarty, the rancher to the northwest of Parlier.

Otto grew up on his father's Missouri farm and was the first of the Venter family to come out to California and settle here permanently, although his brother made a visit to the Golden State in 1897, two years before Otto arrived. When the latter reached here he was only twenty with meager means save a good head and strong and willing hands. He arrived in Fresno County on June 9, and began by working out on fruit ranches by the month; and although his life has been full of toil, he has always been satisfied with his environment, and it is Fresno County, and none other, for him.

While at Madera, in 1910, Mr. Venter was married to Miss Ethel Beauchamp, and their union was blessed with three children, two of whom are still living. William Franklin Venter is the elder; and the other is named Richard Le Roy.

Saving his hard-earned dollars, Mr. Venter's first purchase was ten acres two and a half miles south of Parlier, which he set about diligently improving; and later he bought ten acres adjoining, which he also improved. Ambitious to get a still larger tract, he bought eighty acres of raw land, in 1918, two miles northeast of Caruthers, and having sold his well-improved twenty acres near Parlier to advantage, he is now occupied in planting the new acquisition to vines, trees and alfalfa. This means much self-denial and hard work for himself, wife and boys, but it is safe to say that in a very few years Mr. Venter will have a large and valuable ranch in the newer section of Caruthers.

Mr. and Mrs. Venter participate in all movements for the public good, thereby contributing their mite to the steady building of the town, the State and the nation.



T B Lacy



J. L. Lacy

THOMAS B., and JACK L. LACY.—Nestling in a cozy valley above Academy, on the Copper King road, lies the ranch known as Lacy Bros. Ranch, formerly owned by Thomas B. and Jack L. Lacy or, as they were familiarly called, Tom and Mack Lacy. However, Mack Lacy was called by death in May, 1918, and his interest was inherited by his niece, Mrs. Julia Lee Edwards, and she and Tom Lacy now own and operate the ranch. They are exceedingly liberal and enterprising and dispense true Southern hospitality, and a visit at their ranch is a pleasurable opportunity.

The Lacy brothers were born at Keatchie, La., Tom on July 24, 1860, and Mack in 1862. Their father, Martin Lacy, was born at Delhi, La., and was a planter at Keatchie. He served in the Mexican War and also the Civil War, being First Lieutenant of the Nineteenth Louisiana Regiment. He had married Judie McMickin, and both parents died in Louisiana; of their six boys and four girls, only three boys and one girl are living.

In youth the boys were set to work on the farm and learned the rudiments of agriculture. In 1881 Tom Lacy went out to Austin, Texas, followed teaming and also ranching on the Red River in Bowie County, Texas. Mack Lacy had come out to Kansas City, Mo., where he was employed until 1895, when he came to Fresno County, Cal. It was in 1901 that Tom Lacy came to Fresno County. The brothers followed ranching for Bob Lacy and D. C. Sample, and also mined at Sycamore. In 1909 the brothers bought the present place of 300 acres on the Copper King road, and engaged in stock-raising, in which they were successful. Purchasing other lands, they eventually owned 480 acres in Watts Valley, as well as 220 acres on the Woodchuck range, in the Forest Reserve, the latter, however, they sold in 1916. After an energetic and successful career, J. L. (Mack) Lacy passed from earth in May, 1918. He was a man of pleasing personality and had many friends who mourned his loss. Mrs. Julia Lee Edwards, a niece of Tom and Mack Lacy, had come out from Alabama in 1912 to make her home with them and preside over their household. She was the daughter of their brother, A. J. Lacy, and she inherited Mack Lacy's interests in California, he having willed them to her. Thus she and Thomas B. continue ranching, while she is also individually the owner of a ranch in Watts Valley, making their holdings there over 1,100 acres. Her brand is the number 50. Being possessed of much business acumen, she is of assistance to her Uncle Tom.

T. B. Lacy has always been interested in mining and on their land discovered a chrome mine, and when the government wanted chrome ore he opened and mined it, shipping ore to the East. The Lacy mine is the largest chrome mine in the county and probably the largest and best in the state. Big-hearted and generous, the Lacy's are much respected and highly esteemed. Tom Lacy has also given time to the cause of education, serving as trustee of Fancher Creek school district.

PETER GUST.—It is the hard-working man with continuity of purpose who eventually succeeds in passing others on the road leading to success in life. In Peter Gust, an exceptionally successful man in the vocation he has chosen, is found the qualifications of a most excellent manager and good business man. A thoroughly loyal German-American citizen—no slacker and with no German proclivities—he is a valuable member of the community in which he has cast his lot.

He is the owner of a fine ranch of thirty-three and one-half acres, two miles southwest of Parlier on the Parlier road, twelve acres of which are in Muscats, eight acres in Thompson seedless grapes, four acres in peaches, a quarter of an acre in bearing apricots, and two acres in young apricot trees. The remainder of the place is in pasture, alfalfa, and yards.

Mr. Gust was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, July 1, 1871. He was brought up in the Lutheran faith and attended the common schools of his native land. At the early age of fifteen he began working by the year

for farmers, receiving the first year his board and \$30. He continued this work until 1901, at which time he was earning \$110 per year. In the latter part of February of that year he bade farewell to his parents, John and Katherine Gust, and sailed from Hamburg for the *New World*, landing safely, after an eleven-day voyage, at New York City. He joined his brother, John Gust, at Fresno, Cal. His brother had rented two sections of the Gray ranch, and he worked two years for him.

Then, in 1903, Mr. Gust purchased the James Armstrong place, consisting of eighty acres, one and a half miles southwest of Parlier. The place was in pasture, and he bought it on time at twenty dollars per acre, selling forty-two and a half acres in 1905 for forty-two dollars an acre. Since then he has rebuilt the house, built a barn, purchased water rights, put in a pumping plant, built ditches and laterals, laid one thousand feet of sixteen-inch cement pipe for irrigation purposes, and has planted the place. In 1918 he had 704 feet of twelve-inch cement pipe, and he is putting in cement pipe as fast as he is able each year.

A benedict when he first began his ranching, he was united in marriage in 1908 with Miss Mary Winters, a native of Russia. They have a happy, comfortable, cozy home, and are the parents of two interesting children. John, aged ten, and Frieda, eight years of age.

MRS. ALFREDA VERWOERT.—A cultured, refined woman of rare insight and good judgment, especially in the matter of land values, her powers of discernment and estimate combining to demonstrate her business ability. Mrs. Alfreda Verwoert, widely known in California, has come to participate in an enviable manner in the great work of the rapid and sound development of Fresno County. She was born in Melvern, Osage County, Kans., the youngest child of John A. and Amelia (Mitchell) Douglass, natives of Indiana of Scotch descent, who moved to Kansas and about 1890 came to California and settled at Hanford. There the mother died, survived by her husband, who lives in Pasadena.

Alfreda Douglass came to Hanford when a child of ten, and there attended both the grammar and high schools. Then she took a course in the College of Natural Sciences at the University of California. In 1900, she was married in Hanford to Carel H. M. Verwoert, a native of Holland and a graduate of the University of Leyden, where he studied in both the College of Letters and the College of Law. He had come to California to look after some land at Hanford, in which his father had invested, and which was in a tract known as the Queen Wilhelmina Colony; and besides setting out orchards and vineyards, he bought other lands in Kings County which he so improved as vineyards that they soon became of great value. He was not permitted, however, to enjoy the fruits of his hard, scientific labors; for he died in 1907, leaving besides his widow, a son, Herman, who is at present attending the University of California.

After her husband's death, Mrs. Verwoert continued to look after the ranches and other large affairs of her husband, one of the ranches, which she did not sell until 1918, being in the Wilhelmina Colony; and in a very practical manner, she began to study viticulture and horticulture. About seven years ago, she moved to San Francisco to become manager of the Pacific Coast department of the Redpath Lyceum Bureau, which booked the tours of noted musical stars and companies, and lecturers; but after four years, persuaded that there was a greater and more remunerative field in Fresno County lands, she resigned, to take up ranching more extensively.

Mrs. Verwoert had investigated lands in other parts of California, having the best of opportunities to do so on her preliminary journeys from town to town to book her Lyceum attractions, and found that, considering the real productivity of acreage in Fresno County, the average price here prevailing seemed ridiculously low. She was convinced that these lands would rise in value, in time, and especially about three years ago, noting the great influx

of gold into the United States, she reasoned that it would cause a perceptible rise in land values. She therefore began purchasing ranches, and at one time had six ranches in Fresno County, comprising in all about 900 acres, all improved with vines or trees. She also had a vineyard of 350 acres near Hanford.

Lately, she has sold all of her Fresno County ranches, realizing thereby a large profit, although she retains a peach orchard of sixty acres near Sanger. She is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and of the California Associated Raisin Company. Mrs. Verwoert is an Episcopalian, and a very active club woman especially interested in civic club life.

RICHARD G. RETALLICK.—Minnesota, "The Star of the North," as the French motto of the state means, was still a territory with a civilized population of less than six thousand gathered about the trading posts and missions when the California gold fever was at its height in 1849. The state, now among the richest wheat-producing areas in the Union, still contributes its quota of citizens, who are searching for a less rigorous climate, to swell the population of the Golden West. Among these, Richard Godfrey Retallick, Fresno County's popular deputy district attorney, learned as a youth to appreciate the advantages of California as a place of residence.

He was born at Battle Lake, Minn., November 3, 1889, and brought up by his grandfather, Dr. T. G. Virian. As a boy he made numerous trips to California and in 1899, when ten years of age, came to San Francisco to make his permanent home. He attended the public schools in that city and later took a course in engineering in Cogswell Polytechnic School, afterwards serving as reporter on a San Francisco paper. He took a course at the Polytechnic Business College, in Oakland, and worked for the United States Government in the fortifications on the north side of San Francisco Bay as time keeper and foreman. The legal profession appealing to him he became a law student in the office of George E. de Golia of Oakland and was admitted to the bar in 1911, after which he practiced law for one year in King City, Monterey County. He came to Fresno in April, 1913, and was associated three years with Everts and Ewing in legal practice. He then formed a partnership with Penn Cummings under the firm name of Retallick and Cummings, with offices in the Rowell Building. In February, 1917, he was appointed United States Commissioner, in which office he is still the incumbent. In September, 1917, he received the appointment of deputy district attorney.

He married Miss Catherine McCoy, a native of Santa Barbara, and they are the parents of three children, Richard Godfrey, Jr., Ruth R. and William J. Mr. Retallick is a member of the Commercial Club and is one of the rising young attorneys of the state.

RICHARD HODDINOTT.—A finely-developed Californian who traveled alone to the Pacific Coast when he was a lad of only fifteen, is Richard Hoddinott, who was born in Bristol, Southwest England, on September 10, 1872, the son of John Hoddinott, a farmer there. Since that time, through wide-reading and travel, he has become a well-posted man, with a well-stored mind and retentive memory.

John Hoddinott was killed by lightning on June 20, 1880, leaving a widow, who now resides in Wiltshire, England, and who was Mary J. Welch before her marriage. She is the mother of eight children, seven of whom are living. Richard is the fifth in the order of birth, and he was brought up at Fishpond, a suburb of Bristol, and attended the famous Colston public school until he was fifteen. He thus came from the town in which Cabot, the explorer, had fitted himself out for his voyage to America, and spent part of his boyhood near the scenes of the exploits long to be credited to the boy-poet Chatterton. He saw something of maritime life and the coming and going of seamen where Robert Louis Stevenson commenced his "Treasure Island."

In the great "boom" year of 1888, young Hoddinott crossed the ocean to America and in time reached California, stopping for a while at Fort Bragg, where he was employed in lumbering. Then, with his brother Charles, he started in the dairy business at Point Arena, and in that field he continued for fourteen years. Next they removed to near Willets, where they leased a stock-ranch and continued stock-raising and dairying in Scott's Valley, Mendocino County, for ten years.

After the brothers had sold out and dissolved partnership, Richard continued dairying there for two years more; but in 1915 he shipped his dairy-herd to Fresno County, where he bought his present place of eighty acres three miles south of Kerman and continued dairying. Then he sold off forty acres, and the balance he leveled and checked for alfalfa. He put in an electric pumping plant and irrigates his own lands and that of his neighbors. He has a dairy of twenty cows, and is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association.

At Willets, Cal., Mr. Hoddinott was married to Miss Galena Dalvit, a native of Wyoming, and in common they have a host of friends.

Mr. Hoddinott made a six months' trip to England in 1901, when he visited relatives and friends, but was glad to return to sunny California. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the Woodmen of the World, and finds pleasure in supporting local movements for the uplift of the community.

WILLIAM BISHOP.—Under California's sunny skies the desert is blossoming as the rose, even in a few years wonderful results having been obtained from barren cactus-covered land, with the aid of man's intelligence and a plentiful supply of water. The highly improved forty acres just off the state highway, and one and one-half miles south of Selma, owned by William Bishop, is but one of hundreds of similar places that, during the past eleven years, have been changed from unimproved, almost desert conditions, to productive, well-cared-for acres that are a delight to the beholder.

William Bishop was born in Clay County, Ky., January 5, 1872, and comes from a prominent old Kentucky family. He is the son of Robert and Carlina (Brock) Bishop, natives of the Blue Grass State. The father was in service during the last year of the Civil War, and the paternal grandfather, William Bishop, served on the Union side throughout the entire Civil conflict. The maternal grandfather, James Brock, was a close-communication Baptist minister, and served in the ministry for a period of eighty-two years. He lived to the advanced age of 102 years, and his good wife attained the age of 101 years. Although William Bishop's father was a planter in Kentucky, he never kept slaves. There were five children in the parental home: James, Elizabeth, William, Daniel and Sarah Jane.

While William's schooling was meager, he had a thoroughly practical experience in the line of farming, and learned timbering, the lumberman's trade and the sawmill business, while a very young man. During the Spanish war he volunteered for service from 1898 to 1901, from Kentucky, in Company "A" of the Twenty-second Regulars of the United States Infantry. He saw service at Santiago, San Juan Hill and practically all other important engagements. He was in the battle of Tubochoan on the Island of Luzon, P. I., and also participated in the Flying Brigade campaign under General Lawton, with whom he was personally acquainted. He saw service in China and was at Peking and Canton during the Boxer outbreak. While in the Philippines he was badly ruptured and disabled for life from overstrain in lifting and handling heavy ordnance and munitions. He is allowed a pension of ten dollars a month. Notwithstanding this serious disability, his indomitable will and courage enable him to accomplish what few men of his age could accomplish in the way of hard daily labor.

Upon returning to Kentucky in 1899 he was united in marriage with Mrs. Nannie Clark, nee Hayes, widow of T. J. Clark, the father of her daugh-



William Bishop

ter Lucile, who has just been married and is away on her wedding journey. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bishop: George, Fred and Billy.

Mr. Bishop was under medical treatment at the United States Hospital at the Presidio for ninety days, and lay at death's door from the effects of his injuries. After recovering he took a position with the Fresno Flume and Irrigation Company at Fresno for one year. Later he was with the Sanger Lumber Company for four years. At the time of his marriage, his wife and her daughter Lucile were owners of the forty acres where the family now live. They came to the ranch, then almost a desert, in 1906, and the fertile soil has responded to the good care bestowed upon it. The place is planted to muscats, Thompson's seedless grapes, and Muir and Philip's cling peaches, and has 1,300 feet of underground tiling for irrigation purposes.

Two years ago Mr. Bishop built a fine bungalow, and they have a beautiful, modern country home. Despite physical disability and hard work, Mr. Bishop radiates the genial spirit that his warm hearted impulses prompt, and he never loses an opportunity to do a kindly act. He and his wife mingle in the best social circles and are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, at Selma.

Mr. Bishop is an active member of the Spanish-American War Veterans and was a delegate to the State Encampment of that organization held in Fresno, April, 1918. He is also a member of the Raisin Growers Association, and has demonstrated his loyalty to his country by the liberal purchase of Liberty bonds.

PETER WINTER.—Numbered among the unusually successful viticulturists of Fresno County, in the section east of Fresno city is Peter Winter, owner of two ranches, one of forty acres, where he makes his home, situated ten miles east of the city of Fresno, and the other of twenty acres located one mile south of the home ranch. He is a leader among the Russian-Germans of this section and was born on August, 10, 1862, in the valley of the Volga River, Russia, about seventy-five miles from Sarato. His parents were Wilhelm and Marie (Miller) Winter, both natives of Russia, the father being an extensive grain farmer and the owner of 1,200 acres of land and twelve teams of horses. The family consisted of three boys and one girl; Peter, being the youngest. His oldest brother died in Russia; August, the other brother, came to America and located at Fresno, Cal., where he passed away in 1909, leaving a widow and four children. He was fifty-two years of age when he died and was engaged in the tailoring business. Katherine, the only sister, is the wife of Fred Weisbrodt, who owns a twenty-acre ranch at Sanger.

Peter Winter was reared on his father's farm in Russia, and when he attained the proper age served his allotted time in the army, being assigned to the artillery. After leaving the army he engaged in farming until 1898, when he emigrated to America.

In 1883 Peter Winter was united in marriage with Katrina Siebert, and she with three children born in Russia, accompanied him to America in 1898. They first located near Parlier, where for two years Mr. Winter rented land. Afterwards he bought sixty acres which, he improved and sold. He buys, improves, and sells at an advantage, various pieces of property, from time to time. In 1909 Mrs. Winter passed away leaving, besides her devoted husband, seven children: Katherine E., is the wife of John Arnst, a rancher at Fowler, and they are the parents of six children; Henry, is a rancher and owns forty acres near Del Rey, he married Annie Schisbelhut and they have been blessed with six children; August, answered "the call to the colors" and was a corporal in the Two Hundred Eighteenth Engineering Corps, the others in order of birth are; Katie, Ferdinand, Samuel, and Olinda.

In 1910, Peter Winter married for his second wife Mrs. Margretha (Kinzel) Wagonlightner, widow of Karl Wagonlightner, who died in Russia in 1903. She is a daughter of Heinrich Jacob and Margretha (Tripple) Kinzel, natives of Russia. Her father was a well-to-do farmer of the Warenburg Colony in Russia, a colony composed of descendants of peoples from various places in Germany who had migrated to Russia about 200 years ago, and settled in the valley of the Volga River. The parents of Mrs. Winter had five children: Marie Christine, who married Frederich Wagonlightner, secretary of the colony, and they were parents of six children; Marie Susanna, wife of Philip Bier, who resides in Fresno, they are parents of six children; Johannes, died when forty-one years of age, leaving a widow and one child; Margretha, who is now Mrs. Winter; and Henry, who is still living on the old Kinzel farm in Russia, is married and has two children. The marriage of Mr. Winter with Mrs. Wagonlightner has been blessed with two children: Henrietta and Peter. Mrs. Winter has been married three times, her first marriage united her with Jacob Adolph, a grain broker in Russia, by whom she had one child, a son, Alexander Adolph, who served "with the colors" in France. When Mrs. Winter came to California in 1910, as the widow of Karl Wagonlightner, she was accompanied by four children, Alexander Adolph, and Marie, Fred, and Amelia Wagonlightner.

The forty-acre ranch where Mr. Winter and his family now reside was purchased from the National Bank of Sanger, but was formerly owned by A. Schwabenland, who planted the place and built a store, saloon and blacksmith shop. Mr. Winter tore down the buildings, remodeled the house, installed "Delco" lights, hot and cold water, put in a pumping plant and made of the place a very comfortable and up-to-date home. Mr. Winter is an active and leading member of the Salem German Congregational Church, located one mile east of his place, and for ten years has served as trustee of the property. In 1917 the congregation built a new church building costing \$8,000, to which fund Peter Winter liberally contributed. He is a consistent Christian and a spiritually minded man, also greatly interested in educational matters and all in all his home life is happy and ideal.

RALPH C. INGRAM.—An up-to-date rancher, who has been a resident of California since 1881, and a citizen of Fresno County for nearly twenty years, is Ralph C. Ingram, a native of Nebraska where he was born in Adams County, on August 19, 1878, the son of George and Alma (Prior) Ingram, natives of Indiana and Illinois respectively. Mr. and Mrs. George Ingram are the parents of the following children: Ralph C.; C. Ray; Mrs. J. B. Long; Mrs. C. M. Lowry; Karl, who passed away on October 1, 1905; Lelia; and Mrs. Julia Peter.

The family resided in Nebraska long enough to take up a homestead, but believing that better opportunities existed in California the Ingram family migrated to the Golden State in 1881 and settled for a time in Santa Rosa, Sonoma County, but later moved to Lake County where the father, George Ingram, taught school for a while. He then taught school and farmed in Sacramento County, later in Yolo County, finally removing to Tulare County where he purchased 160 acres of land situated in the foothills and adapted for grazing purposes. He also purchased forty acres of wood land in the mountains. He attended and graduated from the Iowa State University. Mr. Ingram possessed a comprehensive knowledge and was a man of broad views and while living in Tulare County taught school with good results. He finally moved to Fresno County where he purchased twenty acres which he improved by planting it to vines, fruit and alfalfa. This property he sold to an advantage and in a brief time purchased a ranch which is devoted to vines and figs. It contains fifteen acres and cost him \$1,725, but today one acre is worth nearly as much as he paid for the fifteen. It is situated within the corporate limits of the town of Reedley. While living in Iowa, George Ingram filled the important position of Superintendent of Schools of Iowa

County, for a number of years. After moving to California he was for three years a deputy assessor of Fresno County and for a number of years filled the position of school trustee of Reedley district. George Ingram passed away July 19, 1910.

Ralph C. Ingram was reared in California and educated in the public school, supplemented by the teaching of his learned father. After his school days were over he chose, as his life work, the vocation of a rancher and of which he has made a success. On October 31, 1906, Ralph C. Ingram was united in marriage with Miss Myrtle V. Smith, a daughter of G. W. and Fanny Smith, and this union has been blessed with two children: Russell C., who was born December 1, 1907; and Georgia A., whose birth was recorded on January 18, 1913.

Mrs. Ingram was born in Arcola, Ill., February 18, 1881, and came to California in 1901. Fraternally, Mr. Ingram is a member of the Odd Fellows and the Woodmen of the World, and he and his wife belong to the Rebekahs.

ARAKEL KURKJIAN.—The great possibilities offered by the United States, and particularly by the state of California, to those of foreign birth, have induced many enterprising men from distant lands to immigrate to our shores and to avail themselves of these splendid opportunities and in due time to become naturalized loyal citizens of our glorious republic.

Such a man is Arakel Kurkjian, who was born in Agian, Armenia, November 8, 1867, where he was reared and received his education. In 1892 he immigrated to the United States and for a time he followed his trade of shoemaker in Boston. Desiring to see this country and especially the Golden State, he migrated to California in 1912, settling in Fresno County where he eventually purchased twenty acres of valuable fruit and vine land which he afterwards sold, and in 1917 purchased his present ranch of seventy-six acres, situated only one and three-quarters miles southeast of Sanger, and known as the Lone Oak Vineyard. This ranch is devoted to raisins, alfalfa and peaches, and is very highly improved and valuable. Besides this ranch, Mr. Kurkjian rents forty acres which he and his brother work in partnership.

In 1895, Arakel Kurkjian was united in marriage with Miss Zumret Kaparalan, who is also a native of Armenia. This union was blessed with three children: Lewis, who trained for service in the defense of his country, at Camp Lewis and then went over seas as a member of the Four Hundred Thirty-seventh Regimental Band, and whose splendid record won for him a promotion to the non-commissioned office of sergeant; Dirian; and Marion.

Mr. Kurkjian is a loyal citizen of the United States and is interested in the advancement of Fresno County. He belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company, and California Peach Growers, Inc. On national issues he is a Republican. He and his family belong to the Armenian Church.

MRS. JENNIE S. DANIELSON.—A hard-working, highly intelligent and plucky little woman, whose life story is reechoed in the verse,

The smile and the tear, the song and the dirge,

Still follow each other like surge upon surge,

is Mrs. Jennie S. Danielson, who, after passing through many tribulations, has emerged into the sunlight flooding two neat little ranches of twenty acres each, about three miles northeast of Kingsburg. Her maiden name was Jennie Carlson, and she was born in Sweden, her parents being C. A. and Christine (Person) Carlson. Her father died in Sweden, and her mother immigrated to America a few years ago and is living in Minneapolis.

Mrs. Danielson grew up in Sweden and there met the late Judge Frank D. Rosendahl, whose eventful life is sketched in another part of this work. He was a friend of her parents; and when he revisited his old home in Sweden and invited her to accompany him on his return to his home in California,

she availed herself of the opportunity. She crossed the ocean and continent in safety, and soon after arriving and settling at Kingsburg, she married J. W. Danielson.

Three miles northeast of Kingsburg they took up their residence on the ranch of twenty acres with which her active life has long been associated, and happiness and prosperity seemed to be theirs. Two children were born to them, Ellen and Arthur, but afterwards the companion to whom she had come to look for leadership and support, sickened and died, and she was left with the grave responsibility of guiding her affairs alone. She met her duty fearlessly, however, cared well for her children, and by hard, far-seeing endeavor, made her vineyards a model for system and neatness. In fact, she has come to manage the estate better, perhaps, than would most men. She has also recently added another twenty acres to her ranch property.

An excellent housekeeper and a devoted mother, Mrs. Danielson's home expresses everything most desirable in the California life to the edifying of which she has contributed her share. She and her children are members of the Swedish Mission Church of Kingsburg; and she finds great pleasure in working for God and her adopted country, helping to bring reform in politics and rational living that affects the standard of the community and the nation. While she thus contentedly toils for herself, she never forgets her fellow toilers in the world of laughter and sighs about her. Kingsburg is the better for just such large-hearted, steadfast souls as that of Mrs. Danielson; and it is pleasant to note that she has ever remained a warm, personal friend of the family of the distinguished judge through whose kindness she came to America.

EDGAR ORLANDO REESE.—A wide-awake agriculturist of Central California, whose kindheartedness has made for him many friends, is Edgar Orlando Reese, the representative of an old American family of distinction in judicial and medical circles. He was born at Mossycreek, near Knoxville, Nashville County, Tenn., on April 29, 1865, the son of George A. Reese, also a native of Tennessee. Great-Grandfather Reese came from Wales, was an attorney at law, and located in Philadelphia where he was elected a judge and served with honor for years on the bench. His son, Grandfather Reese, was a graduate of the Jefferson Medical College, at Philadelphia, which conferred on him the coveted Jefferson parchment of M. D., and was noted as a successful practitioner.

George Reese was a cattle-buyer, and was of such experience and native ability that his services were sought as a member of the commissary department during the Civil War. In 1869 he removed to Texas and located in Kerr County, where he was both a cattleman and a farmer. On April 1, 1884, he came to California; and after spending some time looking around in Fresno and Tulare counties, he settled at Selma, where he continued to reside until his death. Mrs. Reese's maiden name was Inez M. Caldwell; she was born in Tennessee and died at Kerman, the mother of eight children, all of whom are still living.

Edgar is the oldest and was reared in Texas, where he was educated at the public schools. He worked at cattle-raising and rode the range; and when he moved to Fresno in 1884, he was familiar with ranch-life, and his assistance was in demand by ranchers generally. When his father bought a ranch in the Fresno Colony, he worked there and also for other people; and later he was in partnership with his brother, Arthur, in grain-farming.

When he began grain-farming he bought a farm in Tulare County, south of Porterville and he also leased land. At first he met with hard times and reverses, but later, when he started stock-raising, he made a success with mules and cattle. In 1902 he and his brother dissolved their partnership and sold the land; and then he located at Dinuba, where he bought a ranch. He planted it to alfalfa, and set out sultana and malaga vines; and, at the end of



W Turner
Ida Mal Turner.

four years, he disposed of the ranch and bought others. This experiment of buying, improving and selling he repeated until he had acquired, developed and disposed of three different ranches. After that he moved to Berkeley, where he lived for five years.

In 1907, Mr. Reese had bought his ranch of forty acres on Dakota Avenue, in Dakota Colony, when he was in the business of concrete and building materials at Berkeley; and in the following spring he began to improve it and superintend it himself. In 1911 he sold his business and moved to the ranch. Now he has there a fine vineyard of malaga and muscat grapes, and five acres of peaches. He also leases ten acres adjoining. He is a member and a stockholder in both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

At picturesque and historic old San Luis Obispo, Mr. Reese married Miss Maggie A. Carr, who was born in Iowa, and three children have blessed their union: Pearl, who is a graduate of the Kerman high school and is now attending Heald's Business College; Ross, in the Kerman high; and Merle, at home.

A Democrat in matters of national politics, Mr. Reese has shown broad-minded and non-partisan tendencies in his public service as a trustee of the Dakota school district. He and his family are fond of social life, and are popular in Fresno circles, as is indicated by his membership in the Woodmen of the World.

WILLIAM TURNER.—A keen, enterprising business man, whose phenomenal success makes his opinions of more than ordinary value, and who is extremely optimistic as to the future of Fresno and Fresno County, is William Turner, the superintendent of the Craycroft Brick Company, in which progressive concern he is a partner. He was born at Buffalo, N. Y., on November 30, 1864, the son of John Turner, a native of Chester, England, who went to Montreal on first coming out to the New World. He had learned the stone-cutter's trade in England, and followed it when he reached Montreal. After while he moved to Ottawa, and there he took a sub-contract on the old Parliament Building, and also contracted for building the post office. Still later, he crossed the line into the States and went to Olean, N. Y.; and while at Oil City, Pa., he was killed through a most deplorable accident. Some one left a wrench in a fly-wheel; and when the machinery was set in motion, the flying tool struck him and he died from the effects, at Olean. He was fifty-four years of age when he closed his useful career, highly respected by all who knew him; he was an expert workman who proceeded according to the most approved methods, and his influence in building circles, both in Canada and in the United States, was effectively progressive.

William's mother, who was Adelaide La Page before her marriage, was a native of Montreal and came of French parentage. She is still living, hale and hearty in her seventy-ninth year, the mother of thirteen children, nine of whom have survived to do her honor; and she makes her home at Pittsburg. Of the nine living children, the subject of our sketch is the oldest.

William Turner was brought up in Buffalo, then removed to Olean; and after his father's death, he went with his mother and the rest of the family to Pittsburg, where he attended the public school. Being the eldest in the family, he went to work when twelve years old, delivering groceries, and at fifteen he took up day labor in the brickyard at Olean. Two years later he was molding bricks made by a hand press, and after that he went to New Brighton, Pa., for similar work. He was employed by the Folsom Fire Clay Company, and although he began as a brick setter, in seventeen years he had advanced to the position of superintendent.

At the conclusion of that period Mr. Turner was offered the management of bricksetting for the Fresno Brick & Tile Company of Fresno, Cal., owned by Mr. Prescott, and located on the Andrews ranch; and having accepted the proposition, he came to Fresno, on April 25, 1904, and took charge

of the work. Three years later, however, he resigned and bought an interest in the Craycroft Brick Company, where he assumed the responsibility of the kiln. In time, he was elected vice-president and a director; and then he was made superintendent of the plant. How much of a responsibility this appointment signifies may be judged from a fact or two as to the magnitude of the brick works. This is laid out along Belmont Avenue, opposite Roeding Park, and comprises eighty acres of land with abundant clay deposits. The power required is furnished by electricity; there is a large molding machine and a first-class mechanism for re-pressing; and so well equipped is the establishment that the works have a capacity of fifty thousand bricks a day. Eight kilns in all are employed, and these have a capacity of seven hundred thousand brick each, and they have always been successful with each burning. Among other products the company makes fine faced brick.

On Blackstone Avenue, some time ago, Mr. Turner built a fine brick residence of two stories and ten rooms, designed by himself and wife, and also a brick store at the corner of Blackstone and McKinley. He also built a brick residence opposite the one he owns and occupies, and a packing-house near there, from which he ships green fruit. He was one of the first to build in this part of the town, and he is planning to build several packing-houses here, and to make this an important shipping-point.

At Olean, N. Y., Mr. Turner was married to Ida May Hunt, a native of New Jersey, and they have six children: Arthur, who is in Pittsburg, Pa.; William E., the brick contractor here; May, now Mrs. Martina, of this vicinity; Amy, who is Mrs. L. H. Cornelius, of Redwood; Alice, a graduate of the Fresno High School; and Ruth. All attend the Methodist Episcopal Church and are factors both in religious work and the social life of Fresno.

Mr. Turner has always taken a live interest in politics, even beyond the lines of Republican activity, and has more and more identified himself with civic affairs, although not aspiring to public office; and with his good wife he is always ready to help in every movement for the advancement of the community.

EMERY E. CAUBLE.—Another late pioneer who sees a great future for Fresno County, as the home of both the horticulturist and the viticulturist, is Emery E. Cauble, an ever industrious, honest and genial Hoosier who first came here in the early part of this century. He was born in Washington County, Ind., on December 1, 1873, the son of Alexander Cauble, a native of the same state, who was a farmer and served for three years as a sergeant in the Union Army, in Company E of the Fifth Indiana Cavalry. He had married Susanna Morris, a daughter of Indiana, who died in her native state, the mother of seven children, six of whom are living.

The youngest in the family, Emery was brought up on a farm, and attended both public and private schools, topping off his studies with a commercial course. He remained home until he was twenty-one, and then he became a photographer and jeweler in Campbellsburg, Ind. For four years he conducted what was one of the notable establishments of the town; and when he sold out in 1903, it was to turn his face toward the shores of the Pacific.

On coming to California, he settled in Fresno County, and for the first season he went in for lumbering. Then he moved to Kerman and for a season sold nursery stock. Meantime, he was looking about and getting well-acquainted with Central California conditions. During this period, he bought his present attractive place of forty acres on Dakota Avenue, built on it, and made numerous improvements, including a pumping plant and a tractor. A part of it he has devoted to the growing of alfalfa, and he has a fine orchard and vineyard. He has eight and a half acres of Thompson seedless grapes, fifteen acres of Muir, Lowell and Elberta peaches, and seven acres of apricots.

For some years he was also in the poultry business, and he conducted a first-class apiary; and he still has an apiary of fifty colonies.

E. E. Cauble was married, in 1910, to Miss Eva J. Cummings, a native daughter of San Francisco, whose father was J. J. Cummings, a Canadian who settled in the Bay metropolis, where she was reared and educated. They have one child, Susie.

Mr. Cauble was made a Mason in the Robert Morris Lodge, No. 282, in Campbellsburg, Ind., and he is still a member there. Both Mr. and Mrs. Cauble assisted to organize the Beulah United Brethren Church at Vinland, and he has been secretary of the church and assistant superintendent of the Sunday School. He is a member and a stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and also of the California Associated Raisin Company; he served as local reporter of crops, and has now the honor of being the crop reporter from Fresno County for the United States Government. In national politics Mr. Cauble is a Republican, but he knows no party distinctions when local issues are at stake, and endeavors to support heartily every movement for the improvement and advancement of the community in which he resides.

JESS L. WILLIAMS.—A wide-awake, enterprising and successful young business man, whose progress has been greeted with satisfaction by all who are interested in the advancement of Selma as one of the most desirable places of residence in all California, is Jess L. Williams, the new proprietor of the Economy Meat Market, long so famous under the management of Walter Staley. His full or proper name is Jesse, but his popularity in the fraternal town is characterized by the use of the shorter and more takeable form of "Jess."

He was born at Marionville, Lawrence County, Mo., on September 17, 1895, the son of S. D. and Elizabeth Williams, both of whom are, happily, still living, and at Selma, the only boy in a family having two girls, and he came to Petaluma, Cal., with his parents, and there attended the public schools. His father being a butcher, he soon began to help at the trade; and now, having profited by an instruction he might never have received if working for a stranger, he knows the butcher business from A to Z. More than that, he knows the ins and outs of the meat trade in their relation to modern conditions, especially the great problems of the high cost of living, and so is both able and willing to do his best by his patrons to help them adjust themselves to present-day vexing conditions. He is still fortunate in having the cooperation of his father, who does the slaughtering and the outside work, and who assists him at the block on Saturdays, when the rush, a clear indication of the fine trade he is doing, is on. He has an up-to-date refrigerator and first-class outfit, and handles only the best qualities of fresh and salted meats.

At Selma, in 1916, Mr. Williams was married to Miss Eliza Dill, the daughter of A. Dill, the well-known contractor now of Fowler; and their union has been blessed with one child, Evelyn. Jess belongs to the Foresters, and is an active and valued member in that favorite organization.

GUST. HOKANSON.—A naturalized American whose appreciation of the many advantages offered by California and whose work as a "booster" of the Golden State are the more valuable because he is a well-read and well-posted man, is Gust. Hokanson, who came to California nearly a decade ago. He was born in Jacobstorp, Blekinge, Sweden, September 29, 1867, the son of Hokan Monson, a farmer, who came to Minnesota in 1886, and who had a farm at Moose Lake, which he greatly improved; and there he died. The mother was Emma Christene Gustafson before her marriage, and she now resides in the Vinland district, enjoying life at the good old age of seventy. She had ten children, of whom seven are still living.

Gust., the oldest of the family, attended the public schools in Sweden, and grew up on a farm. Then he learned the trade of bookbinder at Karlskrona,

Sweden. In 1887 he came to America and went to Hartford, Conn., where he worked for the summer in the neighboring quarries. When he moved west it was to stop at West Superior, Wis., where he worked in town for some five years. After that he located on Moose Lake, bought a farm, and engaged in general farming and stock-raising.

Attracted by an article from C. G. Petersen telling of the climate and soil of Vinland, Cal., all of which appealed to him, he sold out his stock-ranch after thirteen years of farming, and on March 11, 1910, arrived in Fresno County. Two weeks later he bought ten acres of land on Shaw Avenue, one and a half miles west of Vinland Church, in the Vinland district; and having improved it in the best possible manner he now has five acres of Thompson's seedless grapes and five acres in peach and apricot orchard. In 1917 he made a trip back to Minnesota, but he was glad to return to his California ranch, now the pride of his eye and the admiration of his neighbors.

Mr. Hokanson attends the Swedish Lutheran Church at Vinland, and participates in its religious and social activities. True to Republican principles, he endeavors to improve citizenship and to promote civic interest.

CHRIS THOMPSON HANSEN.—A thoroughly experienced and well-informed ranchman, who is as liberal as he is enterprising, and enjoys the pleasing reputation of having a heart as large as an ox, is Chris Thompson Hansen, who first reached California through the Golden Gate in the spring of 1909. He was born at Bregninge, the island of Ero, Denmark, on June 29, 1890, and grew up on the dairy farm of his father, Hans Hansen. Thus his real name was Chris Thompson Hansen, but owing to the number of persons by that name, he early abandoned the full title and is known through his two Christian prefixes.

After having attended the excellent Danish schools until he was fourteen years of age, Chris began to paddle his own canoe, and by April, 1909, landed in New York City, brimful of the laudable ambition to work out his destiny and attain his fortune in the American republic. Having reached San Francisco, he had his steps directed to Newman in this state, where he worked awhile at dairying, but it was only for a couple of years, a still better field awaiting him.

In 1911, having heard of the undeveloped resources and the greater opportunities at Tranquillity, Mr. Thompson moved here and purchased thirty acres of land. It was decidedly raw and not overinviting to the eye, but he was not discouraged because he had to put the first plow into it. He leveled and checked, and then planted the acreage to alfalfa; and there, fortified by considerable experience and much natural ability, enabling him both to foresee and to adapt, as well as to apply the latest word in science, he has continued dairying and poultry-raising.

Mr. Thompson has been, in fact, phenomenally successful in keeping his valuable place in excellent shape, and on this account he is widely esteemed by all who know him, and no one better deserves the good will of the community. California may well congratulate Denmark on the quality of the sons she has sent out to the Golden State, prominent among whom must be mentioned Chris Thompson.

FRED WISTROM.—Many men who have come within the hospitable confines of Fresno County but poorly blessed with this world's goods have within a short time made a place for themselves in the community and have amassed a comfortable fortune, a fact which can be pointed to with pride, both by themselves and by the other progressive citizens of this prosperous community. Among these men may be mentioned Fred Wistrom, a resident here since 1900. He is a native of Sweden, born and raised on a farm, and followed that occupation until he came to the United States, in 1882. On arrival in the new country, he first located in St. Paul, Minn., and secured employment there. He later engaged in lumber work in the sawmill at Pinery,



Dwight Fleming and family

Wis. Mr. Wistrom returned to St. Paul in 1884, and there his marriage occurred, to Anna Charlotte Carlson, also of Swedish birth. He was employed in St. Paul in a sash and door manufactory, and later engaged in the teaming business for himself, and finally became elevator operator in a business block in that city and followed that occupation until he came to California.

With the desire to seek new opportunities in the western state, Mr. Wistrom located in Fresno, in 1900, and soon after his arrival went to work for Thomas Patterson, owner of the Patterson Block, and when Patterson and Forsyth erected the new Forsyth Building, in 1904, Mr. Wistrom became head janitor of the building, which position he has held since that date.

Mr. Wistrom has speculated more or less in real estate in Fresno, and has met with splendid success in his business ventures. Among other properties, he bought, in 1908, ten acres of the Barton vineyards, on Belmont Avenue, paying a purchase price of \$2,000 for the acreage, and later selling it for \$3,000. He is the owner of a fine \$5,000 home at 403 Calaveras Avenue and altogether, through his own good judgment and steady application, has accumulated a competency, and while having but a small amount of money on his arrival here, now is in comfortable circumstances financially, and has won the respect and liking of his fellow citizens. During his residence here Mr. Wistrom has been an active worker in the Swedish Mission Church, was for five years treasurer of the church body, and is now a deacon. He has taken one trip back to his old home in Sweden since locating in Fresno, and two trips back to St. Paul. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Wistrom: Milton, book-keeper in Madary's Planing Mill; Ellen, wife of Paul Thiely, of Fresno; and Clinton, now a high school student.

FREDERICK HEINZ.—A good California "booster" who has done much to improve the country to the west of Riverdale, in the Summit Lake district, is Frederick Heinz, a hard-working, active and highly intelligent rancher, who is popularly known as Fred Heinz by his wide circle of friends, every one of whom finds him under all circumstances affable and approachable.

He was born at Shelbyville, Ill., on July 31, 1864, the son of John Philip and Dorothea (Doudt) Heinz, who came from Germany in 1840 and settled at Carondelet, a suburb of St. Louis. The father was a shoemaker, but in 1866 he removed to Shelbyville and there bought a farm. In 1881 Mrs. Heinz died at the age of fifty-four, and two years later Mr. Heinz passed away in his sixty-eighth year. The parents were married in St. Louis and they had eleven children, among whom were two who died in infancy. Nine grew to maturity and seven are now living. Frederick was next to the youngest, and he is the only one now in California. Four live in Shelby County, Ill.; a sister resides in Chicago; and another sister is in Louisiana; and an older brother of the subject, John Lewis, is in charge of the Shelby County Poor Farm, and has been there for twenty-three years.

Growing up on his father's farm in Shelby County, Frederick attended the public schools there and was brought up in the German Lutheran Church. He became a contractor for railroad ties and other supplies and for hardwood lumber, and built by contract the first telephone line from Shelbyville to Decatur, Ill. He also became foreman and later bridge carpenter on the Chicago & Eastern Illinois Railway. In these several responsibilities, Mr. Heinz always acquitted himself most creditably.

On October 19, 1898, Mr. Heinz was married to Miss Eunice M. Shewmake, of Effingham County, Ill., a native of that section and the daughter of Joseph and Anna Shewmake. Her father was a veteran of the Civil War and her grandfather was a captain. Seven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Heinz, of whom four are living: Eleta, now married to Robert Abell; Victor; Carl; and Myrtle. Although formerly a Lutheran, Mr. and Mrs. Heinz and family attend the United Brethren Church at Riverdale.

After his marriage, Mr. Heinz became a sewer contractor and built the sewers constructed at Shelbyville between 1898 and 1900. In the latter year he came to California, and went to Riverdale, where his friend, Mr. Henson, the present postmaster, had located. For some time he ran a cream-receiving station at Riverdale for George A. Smith of Los Angeles; and at the end of two years he bought fifty acres due south of Riverdale. He lived there four or five years, operated the farm, and rented some 200 acres besides. After that he rented the J. W. Beall tract of 200 acres, across the road from where he is now living; and having run that place for several years, he bought his present property, twenty-nine acres in two different pieces on the Burrel and Lanare Road, four miles southeast of Burrel and two and a half miles northwest of Lanare. This is on what, fifteen years ago, was the Browning Tract; and later it became a part of the Summit Lake Investment holdings. He has thirty head of heifers, high grade Holsteins, with a registered bull, and twelve head of draft horses.

It was fifteen years ago that Mr. Heinz came to Riverdale, and seventeen years since he has been in California for the first time; and in these years he has done good work as a citizen, boosting for the railroad, aiding in the sale of liberty bonds, and also helping to support the Red Cross, and becoming the popular public weighmaster at the Bender station. Recently he has demonstrated his enterprise anew by purchasing an additional eighty acres, making his total holdings 109 choice acres of land.

JOHN AUGUST NICKLASON.—An industrious, far-seeing and successful man, of pleasing personality, is John August Nicklason, who came to Fresno County in January, 1905, and who has been helping to develop the resources of Central California ever since. He was born in Smoland, Sweden, County Konebergslan, on January 21, 1868, the son of Nicholas J. Peterson, a farmer who, in 1886 brought his family to Minnesota, settled at Moorhead, Clay County, and there engaged in farming. He died near Minneapolis, Minn. His wife had been Magdalena Johanson before her marriage, and she also died at the same place, the mother of seven children, among whom our subject is the fourth eldest. He attended the public schools, and from his fourteenth year was apprenticed to a book-binder in Karlskrona.

Arriving in Minnesota, he went to work on a farm, and after a while rented land and engaged in raising wheat for himself, and in this, as in whatever he undertook, he enjoyed an encouraging measure of success.

Two days after Christmas, in 1895, Mr. Nicklason was married to Miss Hilda Christene Johansen, who was born in Smoland, Sweden, the daughter of Johann, a farmer there, and of Sarah Johansen, both of whom died there. Mrs. Nicklason was the second oldest in the family, and came to Moorhead in 1894. The wedding took place in that town, and was one of the social events of the year.

Stirred by some letters from the Rev. M. A. Nordstrom, written from Vinland, Mr. Nicklason, in January, 1905, came to Fresno, and the same day bought twenty acres on Madera Avenue and twenty acres on Shaw Avenue, later selling twenty and retaining twenty. It was raw land, but he planted it to alfalfa, and set out a peach orchard of five acres, planted apricots and then grubbed them out and set out nine acres of Thompson seedless grapes. He built a residence and erected the necessary ranch-buildings. He became a member and a stockholder in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company.

Mr. and Mrs. Nicklason have eight children: Ruth, who is Mrs. A. Linberg, of Oakland; Alma, who also resides in that city; Gerdar and Nora, who attend the Kerman High School; and Eldor, Anna, Edwin, and Carl, at home. Mr. Nicklason, who works for good citizenship in the ranks of the Republican party, helped build the Swedish Lutheran Church at Vinland, having also assisted to organize the congregation, and he is now deacon of the church.

JOHN HILL.—Mr. Hill, now deceased, was a pioneer of Fresno County. He was a native of Cambridge, England, and came to this country when he was about seventeen years of age, locating for a time in New York state. Later he went to Waukesha County, Wis., where he engaged in farming until 1880, when he came to California. He located in Merced County near what was then Hills Ferry, now Newman, and bought forty acres which he set to orchard and operated for a time. He then went to Armona, Tulare County, where he owned a ranch and engaged in raising alfalfa and fruits. In 1887 he homesteaded 160 acres four miles east of Coalinga. Mr. Hill operated both places until 1889, when he sold his Armona ranch and made his permanent home on the Coalinga ranch raising grain. He later rented his ranch for grainraising, and devoted all of his time to the poultry business in which he was successful. His ranch is greatly improved, with its irrigating ditches, and all that goes to make a profitable place in California. It has now passed into other hands, having been sold. He died June 11, 1916.

Mr. Hill married Mrs. Carrie J. (Johnson) Slater, who was born in Groves End, County Kent, England, but who came to the United States when but a small girl with her parents, Benjamin and Mary Johnson who located at Milwaukee, Wis. Her first husband was William Slater, born in Lancashire, England. He was a stockdealer and butcher on the corner of Third and Grand where now stands the Schlitz Hotel. He died while in business in 1875. To them were born two children, one grew up, a daughter, Grace Isabelle, now Mrs. A. B. Hill, of Coalinga, who married a son of John Hill by his first marriage. Mr. and Mrs. John Hill have three children: Clarence J., superintendent of the Oil Wells Supply Company, of Coalinga; Florence M., wife of H. C. Gardner, of Chandler, Ariz.; and Arthur E., who enlisted in the United States Navy in February, 1917. He served until his discharge in February, 1919, and is now with the Shell Company at Oilfields. By his first marriage to Maria Daubner, Mr. Hill had two sons: Frank E. of Fresno and Albert Burton who died in 1907.

John Hill was a man of sterling worth, of upright character, one whose word was as good as his bond. He was a self-made man of a type that is Old England's boast. Sturdy, reliable and unafraid, difficulties only made him the more efficient, and he lived to see the fruits of his labor.

JAMES HANSEN.—James Hansen represents the enterprise, thrift, and progressive spirit, so typical of the West. He is a native of Odense, Island of Fyen, Denmark, where he was born February 5, 1869. Denmark has given to the United States many of her best citizens and California has received her share of these thrifty men, who have greatly aided in the development of the viticultural and horticultural interests of Fresno County. He is a son of Hans and Anna Hansen, the father having been a Danish farmer who passed away in that country, after which the mother came to America and settled at Fremont, Nebr., where she resided until her death. Ten children of Mr. and Mrs. Hansen grew up, James, the subject of this review being the fifth child. His early education was received in the public schools of his native country.

In 1888, James Hansen came to the United States and, on May 4, arrived in Fremont, Nebr., where he secured work on the horse ranch of Bluthe & Balding, and for two years was engaged in the hazardous undertaking of breaking bronchos. Afterwards for two years he worked on the John P. Eaton ranch and then started farming for himself by renting land and engaging in raising corn and hogs. Later he purchased a farm and after three years sold it and bought 160 acres in Cedar County, Nebr. While living there the seasons were very dry and consequently the crops were unprofitable. Mr. Hansen then returned to Fremont where he engaged in farming. In 1907 he sold his interests in Nebraska and migrated to California, locating in Fresno County, where he purchased a forty-acre vineyard, in the Malaga section, which he

operated one year. As the returns from his vineyard were not profitable, he pulled up the vines and planted alfalfa, and then engaged in the dairy business. Later, Mr. Hansen traded his vineyard for ten acres on Fig Avenue, adjoining the city of Fresno. Afterwards, for two years, he engaged in the real estate business in Fresno, where he conducted the Danish Land Office.

In August, 1913, he located in the vicinity of Kerman, where he purchased five acres in the Dakota Colony, and two years later bought thirty acres nearby, which was but a wild willow-patch. With the help of a stump-puller, he grubbed out twenty acres of this seemingly good-for-nothing land and now has thirty-five acres of tillable land, five acres being planted to emperor, eight to sultana, and ten to Thompson seedless grapes; and five acres to alfalfa. The remaining acreage he expects to plant to Thompson seedless and sultana vines.

While living in Fremont, Nebr., James Hansen was united in marriage with Miss Hansine Ohlrick, a native of Denmark. This union has been blessed with three children: Annie, who lives in Oakland; Maria, who is now Mrs. W. F. Parker of Berkeley; and Charles, who served as a member of the Twenty-first Infantry, U. S. A., stationed at Fort Douglas, Utah, until he was discharged and who is now helping his father.

Mr. Hansen is an exceptionally good farmer and thoroughly understands viticulture. He deserves great credit for making an undesirable tract of land to "blossom and bloom as a rose."

ILA T. GROUNDS.—Fourteen miles northwest of Fresno, in the Biola district, is located the cattle ranch of I. T. Grounds, who specializes in raising pure-bred, short-horn cattle, of which he is the proud possessor of a fine herd. I. T. Grounds was born on the celebrated Truxton cattle ranch at Hackberry, Mojave County, Ariz., January 20, 1878. His father, W. F. Grounds, is a native of Arkansas, and when six years of age was taken by his parents to Tom Green County, Texas, where they were raising cattle. In 1872, W. F. Grounds brought a drove of cattle to Arizona, and in 1876 brought out the balance of his herd and established the Truxton Ranch on the old Truxton-Beal trail, known as the Santa Fe trail, a large and valuable cattle ranch which he sold, to engage in mining, which precarious vocation he followed until 1888, when he again engaged in cattle-raising at Clay Springs, Ariz., until 1900.

In 1901, W. F. Grounds located in the City of Fresno, but continued to deal in cattle and operate his ranch. He resides at 700 San Pablo Avenue, Fresno, and is now sixty-six years of age. His wife, before her marriage, was Melissa Cureton, a native of Texas. Eleven children were born to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Grounds, nine of whom are living, I. T. Grounds, of this review, being the oldest child. He was reared in Arizona, assisting his father on the ranch until he was twenty-one years old, when he ran cattle, together with his father's stock. Until he came to California, I. T. Grounds continued in the cattle business at Clay Springs, Ariz., with his brother, William F., Jr., at which time he dissolved the partnership and shipped his cattle to California.

In 1903, Mr. Grounds located in Fresno, where he engaged in the butcher business, operating a shop on Blackstone Avenue. On November 15, 1911, he purchased his present place of eighty acres on Noyes Avenue in the Biola district, where he conducts his celebrated ranch for the breeding of pure short-horn stock, raises alfalfa, and runs a dairy of twenty-five cows.

In 1903, at Kingman, Ariz., I. T. Grounds was united in marriage with Miss Minnie Starkey, a native of Arizona, born on the H. Willow Ranch, and a daughter of Wellington Starkey, a native of Visalia, Cal., who migrated to Arizona in 1874, where he engaged in the cattle business, and in that state passed to his eternal reward. Her mother was, before her marriage, Esther Roberts, born in Australia, but now residing at Keystone, Nev. Mrs. Grounds was the second youngest of four children. She attended the high school at Santa Ana, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. Grounds have four children: Roy D., Janice D., W. Carrol, and Chester W.



J. F. Brounck

Mr. Grounds is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery, a charter member of the California Short-Horn Breeders Association, and has shown his fine cattle at Fresno, where they have been awarded several first prizes. He has shown his interest in educational matters by serving as trustee of the Biola School district, and is Clerk of the Board. Mr. Grounds expects to take up his residence in Craig, Moffat County, Colo., at an early date, where he has become a stockholder in the Clay Springs Cattle Company, one of the largest concerns of its kind in the country, and owners of large tracts of land in Arizona, Nevada and Colorado, and having thousands of cattle.

JOHN F. BROMARK.—A fresco artist who has no equal in Fresno County, and a gentleman of Swedish birth who has become one of the most public-spirited of American citizens and put his loyalty as well as his serviceability to the test by repeatedly accepting public office and discharging the onerous duties of a public trust, is John F. Bromark, the well-known contracting painter and city trustee at Kingsburg, a man of long and varied experience and of exceptionally broad views, and with particular interest in the cause of popular education. He was born at Dannemora, Sweden, on January 2, 1859, the son of Andrew Bromark, who was a carpenter and builder. The latter was married in Sweden to Anna Linquist, a native of that country, and all three of their children were born at Dannemora. The subject of our sketch is the oldest; the next is Hildah, the wife of Carl Tegelberg, a well-to-do and retired farmer of Swea City, Iowa; while the youngest is Anna, the wife of C. J. Lenander, a banker and real estate operator, as well as a farmer, at Bancroft, Iowa, who owns a ranch of 900 acres, on which is a herd of buffalo, and is both wealthy and influential.

After profiting from the advantages of a common school education in his native land, John F. in 1870 came with his parents and the rest of the family to America, and settled in Florida near Quincy, where they engaged in farming for a couple of years. Then they moved to Chicago, arriving there two years after the fire, and there John learned how to stripe wagons and carriages, becoming in the end a fine carriage-painter.

But the young man was more ambitious, and so, at the first opportunity, he took a regular course as a portrait painter at the Chicago Art Institute, and soon became proficient. He made crayon portraits of Leander McCormick and other members of that well-known family, and painted portraits of other noted Chicago men; and for a time it looked as though portraiture would be his natural and chief occupation. He had to learn, however, what has given disappointment to so many, that art had to wait for a fair hearing in a land busy with other and tremendous problems, and that portraits were not regarded by most people as an every-day necessity.

Mr. Bromark found, in fact, that there was more money in fresco-painting and high-class decorating, because it was in greater demand and so few were capable of doing it; and in Chicago alone he worked as a fresco-painter for about fifteen years. There he was associated with Chicago's leading painter and decorator, Milligan, and so participated in much of the work which, in that period, made the residences and public buildings of the western metropolis of such note.

In the meantime Andrew Bromark had moved out to Iowa and bought a farm of eighty acres, and in time John followed and purchased eighty acres adjoining that of his father. When he sold his farm, he became a contract painter at Swea City, Iowa, and here he was active and successful for another ten years.

The year 1903 became eventful in Mr. Bromark's life, for he then moved to California. He came almost immediately to the central part of the state, and he was not long in discovering the superior advantages of Kingsburg, where he bought twenty acres of unimproved land. He planted vines and set out peach and apricot trees, and some five years ago he sold the property for

\$8,500, after which, in 1913, he built his beautiful residence, which reflects his artistic sensibility.

This architectural triumph reminds one of some of Mr. Bromark's masterpieces in the realm of art. Among his most famous paintings are the "Gypsy Girl" and the "Colonial Dame," and he is also widely known for a number of California and Iowa landscapes, in which grouping and perspective, as well as the appreciation of color values, are very noticeable. His art work shows rare discernment and the most refined feeling.

Besides being a prominent member of the Swedish Baptist Church at Kingsburg, where he serves as a deacon, Mr. Bromark is a city father, and one honored for his conscientious discharge of the affairs of his office. He was first appointed to fill a vacancy, and then elected, in 1917, to the same office. He is also a member of the Grammar School Board, and advocates schools of the highest efficiency.

While in Chicago, Mr. Bromark was married to Miss Svea Swallander, a native of that city. They had five children: Lillian, Violet, La Rose, Rupert and Carl, all of whom are bright and interesting, and some of whom share his home-life. The good mother, however, died in 1912, beloved and highly respected by all who knew her.

AUGUSTINE GANDRAU.—A man who has gained success and prominence in Fresno County, is Augustine Gandrau a viticulturist of the Round Mountain district. He was born at Elk Point, Union County, now South Dakota, but then Dakota Territory, June 13, 1867, being one of the twelve first white children born in Dakota Territory.

His father, Antoine Gandrau, was born in Ontario, Canada, of French parents. In 1852 he came via the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco, but after mining for three years he returned to Ontario, where he married Marceline Nolette and took charge of his parents' farm, caring for them until they died, when he removed to Dakota Territory, being among the first to locate at Elk Point, Union County, in what is now South Dakota, where he homesteaded and improved a farm. When he retired, in 1894, he came to Porterville, Tulare County, Cal. However, he and his wife returned to South Dakota on a visit and there he died. His widow continued to reside there till her death. Of their six children Augustine Gandrau is the fifth oldest and grew up on the farm, and from a boy showed a great love and admiration for a fine horse. So it is little wonder that in later years he made a success of the selection and training of standard-bred horses.

After completing the local schools, Mr. Gandrau learned the printers' trade in the Huronite office in Huron, S. D., and then edited the Beadle County Press at Cavour, S. D., for one year. Selling out, he used his funds to pay his way at the Congregational College at Yankton, after which he came to Porterville, Cal. For a time he worked on the Porterville Enterprise, and later ran the barber shop in the Pioneer Hotel, Porterville, for five years. In 1898 he located in Sanger where he ran a barber shop.

Being interested in fine horses, Mr. Gandrau fortunately purchased a three-year-old gelding for \$50, whom he named George G. He proved to be a standard-bred of finest blood. Training him, he discovered his great speed. He raced him on the Western Circuit and won \$3,500 in purses in one year. The next spring he sold him to Anthony Brady of New York City, the Diamond King of the Transvaal, for \$15,000. On the day he was sold, George G. made a record of 2:05 $\frac{1}{4}$ and went the half-mile in 1:01, on Pleasanton track. Afterwards he made the world's one mile record—on a half-mile track, in 2:06 $\frac{3}{4}$, at the same time beating the world's one-half mile record, and this record has never been beaten. George G. sold for the highest price ever paid for a gelding west of the Rocky Mountains.

Always having a desire to own a ranch, after the sale of George G., Mr. Gandrau purchased 160 acres two miles southeast of Sanger. He improved eighty acres with vineyard and sold the balance. In 1913 he sold

his eighty-acre vineyard for \$27,000, and then purchased his present place of forty acres in the Round Mountain district, where he has fine soil and a first class water right, and there he engages in viticulture. He has twenty acres of horizontal cordon emperor grapes, which is the first commercial vineyard of the kind in the Valley, and shows an extraordinary yield.

Mr. Gandrau can well feel proud of his success, as do all his friends. He was married at the Hughes Hotel, Fresno, on December 6, 1897, to Miss Emma Derusha, who also was born in Union County, S. D., a daughter of Joseph and Louise Derusha, natives of Canada and of French descent. Mrs. Gandrau came to California in 1894.

Mr. Gandrau is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, the California Peach Growers, Inc., and of the Fairview Grape Growers Association. He has been president of the Sanger Local of the Fresno County Farm Bureau since its organization and is one of the original directors of the Fresno County Farm Bureau. He was chairman of the different drives for Red Cross, Y. M. C. A., Associated Charities, and Liberty Loans in his district during the world war. Mrs. Gandrau is a member of the Round Mountain auxiliary of the Fresno Chapter Red Cross. Mr. Gandrau is a member of Sanger Lodge, No. 375, I. O. O. F., of which he has been Noble Grand two terms.

ANDREW COLOMBERO.—A viticulturist of the Clovis section, who has improved a fine ranch, is Andrew Colombero, a native of Cuneo, Piemonti, Italy, born August 10, 1878, where he was reared and educated. In 1889 he made his way to Savoy, France, where for fifteen years he worked on farms and vineyards, except a few months while he served his required time in an Alpine Regiment in the Italian Army, returning to France after his honorable discharge.

In 1903 he came to California and in Siskiyou County he was employed in saw mills and lumber yards for the McLoud Lumber Company, continuing there for a period of eight years. He then came to Sanger, Fresno County, being employed in the lumber yard of the Sanger Lumber Company for two years.

Having a desire to own a farm and engage in fruit raising, he purchased ten acres near Clovis, in 1913, where he built his home and set out a vineyard, adding to his original purchase until he has twenty-six acres in his home farm, devoted to growing malaga and seedless Thompson grapes. He now also owns another ranch of twenty acres which is also in vines.

Mr. Colombero was married in Italy to Miss Mary Rovero, and they have six children, three of whom are living: Peter, Josephine and Henry. Mr. Colombero is liberal and enterprising and supports all local movements for the advancement of the county. We find him a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and also of the Melvin Grape Growers Association, from their organization.

HANS HANSEN.—A progressive, successful farmer, and a worthy man who has never failed to devote some of his life to the up-building of the community in which he has toiled and had his being, is Hans Hansen, who has been equally blessed in an excellent family. Like some of his fellow countrymen in California, he was born at Bregninge, on the island of Ero, in Baltic Denmark, and his father, Christ J. Hansen, was a farmer and dairyman who enjoyed good repute in his native land. He married Maren Jensen, by whom he had five stalwart sons; and both parents and all the children are still living.

Hans, the third oldest, was born on July 25, 1882, and brought up on the home farm while he attended the common schools of the neighborhood. When he was fourteen years old, however, he began to work out on other farms for a living, and he continued at agricultural work in that vicinity until he left Denmark to take the great step of crossing the ocean to the New World.

In 1905, then, he reached Audubon County, Iowa, and worked on a farm until, in the following January, he was lucky to say good-bye to the extreme heat and cold of the Middle West and to move on to California. At first he located at Newman, where he worked for a year on a dairy ranch, and then he leased the same ranch for a year and conducted there a dairy. After that he worked in the Gustin Creamery for two and a half years and further added to his valuable experience.

Satisfied that Tranquillity was one of the best of all places in Fresno County and offered advantages superior to those he has been having, Mr. Hansen in December, 1910, bought his present ranch of forty acres, and in the fall of 1911 moved onto it. By hard work begun immediately, he leveled, checked and ditched it, and otherwise further improved the land, and by sowing alfalfa made of it a most desirable ranch property. Now he has thirty acres given up to alfalfa alone; and having purchased twenty acres more of land, he has sixty acres in all, a part of which is used for the raising of grain. He also conducts a dairy and raises poultry, owning about 250 hens. He belongs to the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association, and supports every good movement making for the development of Central California.

At Oakland, on October, 1910, Mr. Hansen was married to Miss Petra Nielsen, a native of Ero, Denmark, and the daughter of Peter C. and Anne M. Nielsen; a good woman who has become an excellent mother and housewife. Four children have gladdened the Hansen home: Harry M. is the oldest; then there is Christian P.; after him has come Mabel Margaret; while the youngest is Hans Einar Hansen. The family attends the Lutheran Church, and seeks the good in life. They are also enthusiastic Americans, and during the recent war crisis none were more loyal to their adopted country.

FRANK BEGOLE.—A native of Medina, N. Y., where he was born December 11, 1874, Frank Begole has made a place for himself in the business life of Fresno. He received his education in the grammar schools and the academy in his native town, and at the age of fifteen years, started to make his own way in the world. He learned the plumbing trade with Acer & Whedon, in his home city, and followed his trade for a few years in Buffalo, N. Y., then worked his way west, following his trade in Chicago, St. Louis, Denver, and other Middle Western cities. For a time he ran a shop of his own in Moscow, Idaho. He finally came to San Francisco, Cal., December, 1902, and worked in different cities in the state, from San Diego north to San Francisco, and put in a year and a half at work in the Yellowstone National Park, on the Canyon Hotel, located there.

Mr. Begole came to Fresno in April, 1911, and secured work with V. J. Cox for two years. In November, 1914, he engaged in business for himself, doing contracting plumbing. In May of 1916 he formed a partnership with J. C. Hinton, with the firm name of Begole & Hinton, but after one year, the partnership was dissolved, and Mr. Begole opened his present place of business, at 2532 Tulare Street. He makes a specialty of contracting for fine residence work, and has installed the plumbing in a number of fine homes in Fresno and surrounding territory, among them the following: L. Wass residence, Kerckhoff Ave.; M. D. Priest home, in Alta Vista tract; D. D. Bolitho home, Calaveras Ave.; the A. Hasselbalch residence, Forthcamp Ave.; Theo. Schmidt home, Yale Ave.; and a number of fine residences in the Normal School district, for John G. Porter; the John Muir School on Palm Ave.; besides others too numerous to mention. Mr. Begole is also doing the plumbing for the Alta Vista Homes Company, in the Alta Vista Tract, and at the present time has seven residences under construction. With strict attention to detail and modern methods of workmanship, Mr. Begole has built up a large business, and has the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens in the community.



Frank Begole

Fraternally, Mr. Begole is a member of the Red Men of Fresno; he became a member of the Odd Fellows, at Medina, N. Y., in which order he has passed all the chairs, including the Encampment, and is now member of Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F.; he is also a member of the Eagles, of San Francisco. Besides his business interests, Mr. Begole owns a ten-acre ranch located one mile west of Fresno, on White's Bridge Road and Hughes Ave., which he devotes to Thompson Seedless grapes and figs.

JOHN AUGUST STEITZ.—A resident of Fresno for over a quarter of a century who has seen the town develop, and who has himself prospered despite serious obstacles, is John August Steitz, who came to Fresno in the early nineties. He was born at Skadofsky, in Samara, Russia, on December 14, 1869, the son of John Peter Steitz, a farmer there, who had married Mary Kruzal, in time the mother of two boys and four girls, all of whom are still living. In 1898 John Peter Steitz followed his son to California and resided with him until his death, in 1916, aged seventy-nine. His good wife also died here.

John August was the second eldest in the family, and after attending the public schools, went to work as a farmer. In 1890 he was married in Russia to Miss Christina Deil, also a native of that country.

In 1893, Mr. Steitz came to Fresno and entered the employ of Spaning, the brick manufacturer, with whom he continued for three years. Then he engaged with a contractor for building and helped erect some of the houses in the section, including the Hughes Hotel, the Helm Block, and other structures. Some years later he fell from a third story, where he was working, and from that time on had to abandon building at altitudes.

He then drove a bakery wagon for the Fresno Bakery for three years, without the loss of a day, and next began in the merchandise business. In 1903 he bought a store on South F Street, which he later sold, purchasing a larger place on the same thoroughfare.

On August 17, 1908, Mr. Steitz bought the lot he at present uses and there built a store and a residence. He sold general merchandise, and ever since has handled only the highest grade of dry goods, hardware, grocery and meats, so that now he does a lively trade in part based on established reputation for quality of stock and honesty in methods.

Mr. Steitz has been twice married. His first wife died here and left seven children. Peter is in the employ of the Wormser Furniture Company at Fresno; Christene is Mrs. Bier of the same city; Lizzie is Mrs. Eurich, also of Fresno; Charles is with his father, and there are Alexander, August and Margaret.

On the occasion of his second marriage, Mr. Steitz took for his wife Miss Maggie Deubert, by whom he has had four children. They are Elsie, Bertha, Nathalie, and Freda, and with their mother attend the Free Evangelical Lutheran Cross Church, where the father is a member of the board of trustees.

A naturalized citizen, Mr. Steitz is a Republican in national affairs, but always ready to support worthy local movements, irrespective of partisanship.

JOSEPH WIGGENHAUSER.—Prominent among the late-comers in Fresno County, and one of the leading agriculturists in the vicinity of Kerman, is Joseph Wiggenghauser, who was born in Chicago on October 26, 1874, the son of John Wiggenghauser, who located in that city in 1872, and was for several years in the employ of the Emmett Proprietary Company, manufacturers of medicines. In 1878 he located in Osceola County, Iowa, where he purchased 160 acres of land and continued farming until 1901, when he removed to Stevens County, Minn., and bought a tract of 240 acres. This he later sold and returned to Chicago, where he spent the rest of his days. Joseph's mother was Dora Vesser, who died in Iowa about 1879.

Joseph was the only child of this union, was reared on the Iowa farm and received a good education in the public schools. When twenty-one years of age he engaged in business in Osceola; but after two years, on the death

of his father, he took charge of the Minnesota farm, and raised grain and stock until 1911, when the farm was sold.

Having become interested in Fresno County from advertisements put out by the Fresno Irrigated Farms Company, he purchased his present ranch of thirty acres and located here in 1911. He chose the Vinland district because it appealed most to him; and when he later disposed of ten acres, it was to enable him to give greater attention to the remaining twenty acres, devoted to Thompson seedless grapes, peaches and alfalfa. In February, 1917, he bought twenty acres half a mile south of his present place, which he continued to improve until November, 1918, when he sold it at a good profit.

Mr. Wiggenhauser is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and is a firm believer in cooperation. In politics, he is an Independent, voting for the man rather than the party. He is enthusiastic and optimistic for the future of this section of Fresno County, and has faith particularly in its prospects as the finest of all Thompson seedless regions in the State.

Fresno County owes much of its prosperity and fame to the experience, far-sightedness, industry, and faith of such settlers as Mr. Wiggenhauser, and no one will begrudge him all the good things of life that come his way as a result of his toil and enterprise.

ELI WOODALL.—The life which this memoir delineates began in England, in the year 1857. Eli Woodall is the son of William and Eliza Woodall who were both natives of England. Mr. and Mrs. William Woodall were the parents of eleven children. The family immigrated to the United States in 1887 and located in Idaho, where the parents passed away. Seven of the children are living; two reside in Idaho, one in England, and four in California.

Eli Woodall is a pioneer of the Reedley district and has been a resident of Fresno County since 1906. Since his settling near Reedley he has been actively engaged in the advancement of best interests of that section of the county.

In conjunction with his brother-in-law, Matthew Horsfull, he owns a ranch which is devoted to the culture of oranges, Thompson's seedless and muscat grapes. His ranch has yielded as high as two tons of grapes to the acre. When he first began to till the soil of his ranch the land was in a wild or virgin state. Eli Woodall being a practical farmer he has by hard work and intelligent efforts, succeeded in bringing his ranch to its present state of productivity. His success is illustrative of the excellent opportunities offered by this section, and his citizenship has been of value to the community.

JOHN CARLSON.—A conscientious, hard-working rancher who, after years of expert work in Europe as a maker of surgical instruments, has become a successful fruit-grower, specializing in peaches, is John Carlson, who lives about one and a half miles north of Kingsburg and who is widely known as one of the Kingsburg promoters to start a branch here of the Rural Credits Bank. Through this remarkable banking institution, farmers can get long loans at low rates of interest, and Mr. Carlson himself has three thousand dollars which he borrowed from the bank for twenty years at five per cent. interest. The institution will undoubtedly grow and will continue to prove to the farmer a source of strength and beneficence.

Born in Sweden, on January 17, 1862, Mr. Carlson came to America in 1887, having previously been at Christiania for four years, where he was apprenticed to a master in the art of making dental and other surgical instruments. He stopped awhile in Chicago, and there he engaged as a laborer in grading for the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway in Wisconsin, and also going to work for the company in Minnesota. In 1888 he went back to Wisconsin, and there, at Ashland, while working in a saw-mill, he had the great misfortune to lose three fingers from his right hand.

While he was at Ashland, in 1895, Mr. Carlson was married to Miss Lizzie Frederika Wilfer, a native of Finland. Eight years later he came to California and bought, at Kingsburg, forty acres of unimproved land then a rye-field. With his own labor he has planted and built on the farm everything of value now to be found there, and he has fifteen acres of muscats, four acres of seedless, four acres of alfalfa, seven acres of peaches, and the balance in a eucalyptus grove, yards and garden. He has a fine pumping plant with a fifteen-horsepower engine and a five-inch pump, and he also commands irrigation for thirty acres from the neighboring ditch.

Mr. and Mrs. Carlson have had ten children: Hildah, wife of Fred A. Snider; Mary, who died a victim of influenza, in December, 1918; Rosa; Clara; Lillie, who died at the tender age of eight; Myrtle; Alvar; Otto; Stanley, and Ernest J. The family attends the Kingsburg Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church. In national politics Mr. Carlson is a Republican. He is witty and extremely good natured, as fine a fellow socially as he is wide-awake and enterprising in business matters.

That which naturally gives Mr. Carlson much satisfaction is his association with the Kingsburg branch of the Federal Land Bank, which he helped to organize. He is both a member and a stockholder. A. O. Lanstrom is president; E. Ed. Peterson, secretary; and Messrs. John Carlson, Gunder-son, Wilson, Mayfield and Hanson, the directors. So helpful has this bank proven to the farmer that it has already made loans aggregating \$120,000, and in it the often handicapped farmer finds one of his most encouraging friends.

ARTHUR J. ANDERSON.—A young man of enterprise and public-spirit, who has spent practically all of his life in Fresno County, having been impressed with its great future, is Arthur J. Anderson, who was born in Eureka, Humboldt County, on July 1, 1892, the son of John Anderson, a native of Sweden. The father migrated to Michigan, and thence to Eureka, where he followed his trade, that of a carpenter. In 1904 he brought his family to Fresno County, and so recent has been the development of some of this Central California wonderland, that they were among the first settlers of Vinland Colony. And there, by hard labor, a stimulating example in itself, he improved sixty acres to fruits, principally grapes.

John Anderson was prominent in the organization and building of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Vinland, and has also been a leader in the up-building of the community. With something worth while to look back upon, and the best of reasons for regarding the future with optimism, Mr. Anderson and his good wife reside on their ranch in Vinland Colony, esteemed by all who know them.

The oldest in their family of four daughters and a son, Arthur Anderson was reared in Fresno County from the age of twelve, and, after completing the grammar school, he attended Heald's Business College at Fresno. He made there a creditable record for proficiency, and later demonstrated equal ability in assisting his father on the ranch. After a while, he purchased his present holding of twenty acres from the paternal property he had helped to set out, and little by little he improved it. The ranch is located on Madera and Riverside Avenues, and is one of the finest vineyards in the district. In course of time he built a new modern bungalow there, added other structures and made various improvements, so that today his estate, for its size, is of real value. Of course, he has come to be a booster in the California Associated Raisin Company.

At Vinland on November 4, 1916, Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Lillian Nordstrom, a native of Minnesota and a daughter of the Rev. M. A. Nordstrom, the pioneer of Vinland district, whose interesting life-story is given elsewhere in this volume. They have one child, a bright boy named Gerald, and they attend the Swedish Lutheran Church.

NIELS JORGEN HANSEN.—A highly intelligent, very industrious and successful self-made man, who has attained to some of the rewards of thrift and integrity, is N. J. Hansen, who owns forty of the finest acres on the Parlier road, a mile west of Parlier. He was born in Denmark on June 10, 1839, the son of Hans Nilsen who married Annie Jorgensen, like her husband also a native of Denmark. His father, who was a good farmer, owned his farm and became fairly well-to-do; and when the parents died, they had the satisfaction of having given life and a start to a family of fourteen children, the youngest of whom was the subject of this sketch.

The lad attended the Danish grammar schools until he was fourteen, when he was confirmed in the Lutheran Church; but at that age he began to work out on farms in the neighborhood, since his father had sold his farm and retired. While thus employed and thinking of the future because of his increasing contact with the everyday realities of life, he became intensely interested in the letters sent home by an elder brother, Jens Hansen, who was located in the Central Colony four miles south of Fresno. He had come to America in 1874, had stopped for a few months in Alameda County, and then, with some companions, had made his way up to Fresno County, arriving here in the fall of the year. He thus became one of the very first settlers in the Central Colony, and met and overcame the obstacles then trying the endurance of the pioneer. For example, it was then necessary to haul from Fresno all the water needed for both domestic and stock purposes, and this inconvenience continued until the settlers were able to sink a deep well.

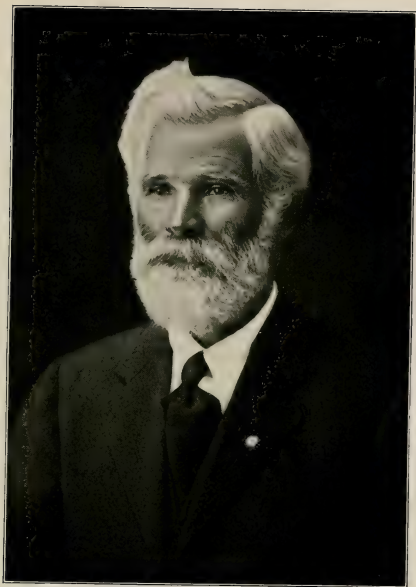
Aroused, then, by the desire to see America, the young man, just attaining maturity, bade good-bye to home and friends and sailed from Copenhagen on the steamship Thingvalla. He landed at the old Castle Garden in New York, on August 25, 1880, having been nineteen days on the ocean. There were only ninety passengers on board, but the weather was good and the trip an agreeable one. He stopped over night in New York, and then hurried on by rail to San Francisco.

Tarrying three or four days in the bay metropolis, Mr. Hansen continued his journey to Fresno where, on September 11, 1880, his brother, Jens, met him. During the following fall and winter he worked for his brother, and thrice went to the mountains at Pine Ridge and labored in the saw mill. He also worked on the road, and the next summer toiled in the harvest fields at Centerville. He had to acquire the English language, and to master American business usages and methods of agriculture. But he persisted and won out. When he had money enough, he bought a lot at the Central Colony, and since that time he has worked for himself. He improved his lot, bought more and more land, and finally owned forty acres, well-improved, in the Central Colony. Occasionally he worked out a little at odd jobs to get the money necessary for his immediate support, taxes, etc.

In 1887, Mr. Hansen married Miss Martha Thomsen, a native of North Schleswig, who came to Minneapolis and thence to California and the Central Colony. She has since proven such a good helpmate to him that he gives to her, with her good cheer and encouragement the credit for having tided him over his hardships and privations.

Until 1914, Mr. Hansen continued to farm in the Central Colony, but he then sold out, and on the following twenty-sixth of March he moved to his present fine property. He had bought this place in 1909, and with the help of his son (who served in the army in France and returned home after an honorable discharge, March 1, 1919), he started to improve the new holding, at the same time that he operated his place in the Central Colony, using the money made by the latter farm to develop the former. Now, on a beautiful site overlooking the surrounding ranches, he has a delightful home.

Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have had eight children, and six of these are living, two having died in infancy: Mata is the wife of Sophus Hansen, who served in the navy and has returned from the war and resides at Parlier; Syvert,



N. J. Hansen

single, is in the army in France; Hannah is the wife of L. Stoner, an employee of the Griffin & Skelly Packing Company, at Fresno, and resides at Fresno; Jorgen is a machinist and toolmaker, who has worked at his trade in California, Illinois and Iowa for seven years and is now at Visalia; Christiana, who graduated from the Easton high school is now society editor on the Parlier News and is also librarian of the Library at Parlier; and Mary, who is the wife of Adolph Lindberg. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen are members of the Lutheran Church, which the children also attend.

The generous response on the part of several members of Mr. Hansen's family to the call of the Government for service in the terrible war recalls an interesting chapter or two in Mr. Hansen's own experience when he was a young man. In the fall of 1877, when he was only eighteen, he enlisted in the Danish Navy, and served on the Danish frigate *Shelland*, as a gunner, doing duty there from August 21, 1878, until May 16, 1879, when he was honorably discharged. He also served in the Danish West Indies, when he was stationed for the most part at St. Croix and St. Thomas. These islands were sold to the United States Government, in 1916, for \$25,000,000. and Mr. Hansen believes that Uncle Sam got a mighty good bargain.

Mr. Hansen's cosy ranch has become one of the show-places of the vicinity, and is interesting also to the professional agriculturist on account of the way in which it is laid out. Fifteen acres are devoted to peaches, especially Muir and Lovell, as well as Elbertas, and there are nectarines, and also apricots around the border. There are three acres of muscats, eleven acres of Thompson seedless, and four acres of alfalfa. The rest of the place is occupied by buildings, drying grounds, and four acres to grain. A six-room bungalow was erected in 1915.

PETER HÖGLUND.—Among the sturdy pioneers of Vinland who will long be remembered, and who will be honored while memory lasts, must be mentioned Peter Höglund, the kindly, highly-respected and delightful old gentleman, who came to Fresno County in 1903. He was born in Hjeriedalen, Hjertland, Sweden, in June, 1846, the son of Peter Peterson, a farmer, who died in Sweden at the age of eighty-four. His wife was Betsy Peterson, and she died in 1851, the mother of three children, among whom Peter, the only one in the United States, is the oldest. He attended the public schools, while helping at home, and when twenty-one went into the Swedish army for two years. In 1869 he came to the United States and went to Red Wing, Minn., and later to Grant County, where he homesteaded 160 acres. He improved the land, while raising wheat, and so continued until he came to the Pacific Coast.

In 1902, Mr. Höglund sold out and the following year came to California with the Rev. M. A. Nordstrom and one or two others. They came at once to Fresno County, and he bought fifty-five acres on Madera Avenue, which he improved. He set out a ten-acre peach orchard, made a vineyard and planted alfalfa, and ran the place until 1908, when he sold it to A. Soderberg. Thereupon Mr. Höglund bought his present place of thirteen acres, also in Vinland. It is not only along the San Joaquin River, but lies on an island in the stream, and so is ideally situated. There he has 160 peach trees and the balance devoted to grain. He has improved the property, and made it his cosy homeplace; and there he dispenses an agreeable hospitality to those who call to see him. He is a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

While giving proper attention to things worldly, contributing as a loyal Republican towards good government and supporting the best men and measures in local issues, Mr. Höglund never fails in his efforts for the advancement of Christianity, and he was therefore glad to be among the organizers of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Vinland, and one of the builders of the church edifice.

JOHN PETER SCHMALL.—Engaged in various activities since his first settling in the county, in 1899, John Peter Schmall has demonstrated his capabilities both as a business man and rancher, and has met with deserved success in his adopted country. His birth took place in Stahl Colony, Samara, Russia, November 12, 1874, where his parents George and Marie (Weibert) Schmall were farmers. John Peter was the youngest of twelve children born to them, and was reared on the home farm, receiving his education in the public and private schools of his native country. There his marriage occurred, on October 20, 1896, to Miss Elizabeth Scheidt, also a native of Stahl Colony.

In November, 1897, the young couple emigrated to America and first located at Lincoln, Nebr., where Mr. Schmall engaged in railroad work. July 4, 1899, they came to Fresno, and here he also engaged in the same occupation, first for the Santa Fe Railway, and then was with the Southern Pacific. His first ranching venture was forty acres in Biola, in 1905, then he sold at an advance and bought twenty acres between Jensen and Ventura Avenues, which he improved and sold, and then bought forty acres, which he set to vineyard, and also sold. He then went into business in Fresno for one year, buying from Charles Scharer the F Street Livery and Feed Yard. He next bought a grocery store on E Street which he conducted one year, when he sold out the property and once more engaged in ranching. This time he bought 160 acres near Herndon in Madera County, later sold this holding and bought at Dinuba, sold and bought near Reedley, making several trades at a profit there. During the time he lived in Fresno he bought several lots in various locations, built four houses there, then sold them at a profit.

In June of 1917, Mr. Schmall bought his eighty-acre ranch in the Barstow district, and has brought it to a high state of cultivation, a fine vineyard and orchard showing splendid care. He sold off twenty acres and now has sixty acres in malagas, muscats and peaches. Here he has built his residence and barns, and all the improvements necessary to a modern ranch.

Fourteen children have blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Schmall, ten of them living: Katie, who married Peter Klein, August 1, 1919; Mollie; Peter; George; Fred; Elizabeth; Marie; Harry; and Henry and Albert, twins. They attend the Lutheran Church and Mr. Schmall is trustee of the branch church at Barstow. He is a member and stockholder of the California Associated Raisin Company and of the California Peach Growers, Inc. A man of energy and initiative, Mr. Schmall deserves the success he has attained.

PEDER S. PEDERSEN.—An energetic young man who is an inveterate worker, and who is very naturally doing well as a general contractor at the same time that he is improving a twenty-acre vineyard, is Peder S. Pedersen, known to his friends and acquaintances as a fine fellow. He came to California in the early years of this century, and ever since, while contributing his share to the development of the country, his popularity has steadily increased.

He was born at Ribe, in Jylland, Denmark, on November 24, 1884, the son of Niels Pedersen, who is a farmer in Ribe. The mother was Karen Pedersen, now deceased. They had twelve children, seven of whom came to the United States, all of whom are still living except one of the sons. Peder was brought up on a farm and educated at the public schools; and in November, 1903, when he was nineteen, he came to the United States and California with his brother Niels.

They reached Fresno and soon obtained employment in the dairy at Rolinda; and thereafter they learned the ways of American farmers, driving big teams in the grain fields. Two years later Mr. Pedersen bought thirty acres of land at Rolinda devoted to alfalfa, and leasing more land, he went in for the raising of alfalfa on a large scale. He supplied hay and feed to the Fresno market and he also sold at retail.

A couple of years after that he engaged in contracting and leveling other peoples' lands, and went in for the building of ditches in Fresno County. He ran twenty head of horses and rented twenty head in addition, and he was generally in lively demand. About that time he sold his thirty acres and bought fifty-five, also at Rolinda; and he used to rent in the Kernman district.

Five years ago Mr. Pedersen bought twenty acres in the Dakota Colony; and soon his characteristic enterprise manifested itself in the improvements he made with the land. He set out Thompson seedless vines and planted alfalfa, and transformed the rather raw land into one of the really valuable ranches of the neighborhood.

On one of Fresno's brightest days Mr. Pedersen was married to Miss Sophia Nielsen, also a native of Denmark, by whom he has had three promising children. They are Thomas, George and Helen Pedersen and they share the popularity of the parents.

Mr. Pedersen belongs to the Danish Brotherhood, and takes pleasure in adding his influence to making this one of the organizations of naturalized Americans making at all times for better American citizenship.

C. J. GALLOWAY.—A hard-working, enterprising Kansan, of fine old Scotch ancestry, and brimful of good ideas and impulses, is C. J. Galloway, a rancher who is winning success with some fifty acres of highly improved land three miles northwest of Kingsburg. C. J. Galloway was born in Cowley County, Kans., fourteen miles from Arkansas City, on December 4, 1879, the son of Thomas Galloway, a native of Stone County, Mo., who married Barbara Meese, whose native place was Terre Haute, Ind., the ceremony taking place at a pretty country spot in Missouri. The Galloway family has military traditions, Thomas' father, Charles, who was an early settler at Springfield, Mo., having served in the Mexican War and been a major in the Union Army. He was living in Stone or Barry County, Mo., at the time of the Mexican War broke out, and after the Civil War, in which he served during the entire period, he bought about a thousand acres of land on the James River bottom, and when the Frisco line built through there, it located a station on his land which was called Galloway Station, and is so called to this day.

C. J. Galloway grew up in Kansas until he was fourteen, and then went back to Galloway, Mo., and lived with Major Galloway. His schooling, therefore, was obtained in Kansas and Missouri. Later he moved back to Kansas with his parents, to the old place. During his twenty-second year, his father sold his farm in Kansas and in 1903 all the family moved to Idaho and there engaged in grain farming.

At Newkirk, Okla., on October 13, 1902, Mr. Galloway was married to Miss Laura Bishop, a daughter of George W. Bishop and an own sister of the Kingsburg postmaster. With his wife and the oldest child, who was born in Idaho, he lived in that state for three years; and then, in 1906, he came west to California.

Fortunate in having his attention attracted to Kingsburg, Mr. Galloway bought at first twenty acres, and in another year bought another tract, this time of forty acres, which he improved and sold to advantage. Then he bought the first twenty acres of his present place, and in the fall of 1917 thirty acres more. Now he is planting nine acres of Thompson seedless grapes, and the balance in alfalfa and seedless. The original twenty is entirely planted, and he has built a house and pumping plant on it, and made numerous other improvements. The result is that he has one of the most attractive ranches of its size in Central California. He is a member of the California Raisin Growers Association and of the California Peach Growers Association.

Mr. and Mrs. Galloway are the parents of three children: Bessie, in the grammar school; James; and Raymond, six years old. Mr. and Mrs. Gallo-

way are active in the Federated Methodist Episcopal Church at Kingsburg. Mr. Galloway is a member of the board of education, and was a prime mover in the plan to consolidate the Eschol and Kingsburg school districts, which involves bringing the school children from Eschol district each day to the grammar school at Kingsburg by automobile. This is being tried out on a three-year test, and if it continues in popular favor, it will probably be voted a permanent institution. Mr. Galloway was first appointed to fill a vacancy, and he was then elected for a term of three years, and is now serving his eighth year.

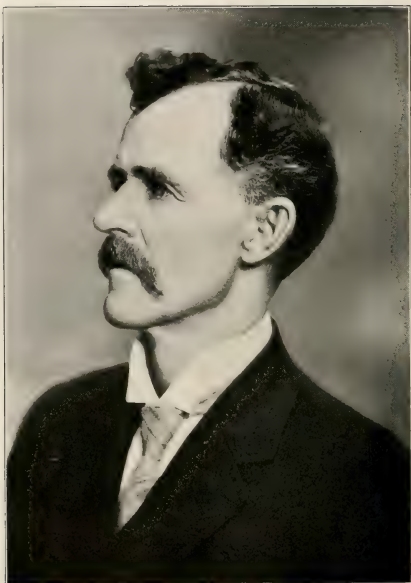
HENRY EDWARD ELAM.—A successful dairyman, who has won a reputation as a level-headed hustler, is Henry Edward Elam, the son of John H. Elam. He was born in Fresno, June 5, 1878, and came to Kerman when it first started. His father was a rancher, who later went into the blacksmith business in Fresno. He had a shop where the Farmers and Merchants Bank now stands. Then he removed to Coarsegold, Madera County, and there he continued as a smith until he retired. Now he resides with our subject. He had married Mary Lumsford, who was born in Kentucky, and died at Coarsegold in 1882, the mother of five children, among whom Henry E. was the third. Henry was brought up in Coarsegold until he was thirteen years old and attended the public school, after which he returned to the plains. He was employed for ten years on a grain-ranch in Merced County, where he learned to handle big teams with dexterity. For a couple of years, he was at Yreka, in Siskiyou County, and after twelve years' absence, he came back to Fresno County.

Mr. Elam then leased his uncle's dairy, twelve miles west of Fresno, and ran it for three years, and then he bought a ranch of sixty acres two miles west of Barstow where, with a fine herd of thirty-five cows, he continued dairying for another three years. Then he sold out at a profit and removed to Fowler, and this time bought a ranch of fifty acres. It was devoted to alfalfa, so he established a dairy there, but after a year, he again leased land, this time at Barstow, where he also had a dairy. In 1917, Mr. Elam leased a ranch south of Kerman and conducted a dairy; and in January, 1919, he sold the lease and bought his present holding, a fine ranch of forty acres on Jensen Avenue, two miles southeast of Kerman. He checked it for alfalfa, and once more opened an up-to-date dairy; for he found the country most admirably adapted to that field of husbandry. Then he joined the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association.

Mr. Elam was married, at Kerman, to Miss Viola Condon, a daughter of John Condon, whose life is also sketched in this work. Mrs. Elam is a native of Merced County and is held in high esteem. By a former marriage Mr. Elam has a son, Franklin Henry Elam. Mr. Elam is a Democrat, and a member of Fresno Parlor, No. 25, N. S. G. W.; and both husband and wife attend the Methodist Church.

AXEL PEDERSEN.—Numbered among the successful viticulturists of his section of Fresno County, is Axel Pedersen, a native of Denmark, born near Ribe, Jylland, on December 26, 1887, a son of Niels and Karen (Hansen) Pedersen. Axel was reared on a farm in Denmark, his father being a Danish farmer and the owner of a place. When seventeen years old Axel decided to come to America, where so many of his countrymen had won success. In 1904 he sailed for New York, and after his arrival, he continued his journey westward until he reached the Golden State, locating in Fresno County, Cal., in March, 1904. Of the twelve children born to Mr. and Mrs. Niels Pedersen, eleven are living, five boys and six girls; four boys and two girls having emigrated to California.

Arriving in California, Axel found employment on ranches and grain-farms for about four years, when he became interested in viticulture and horticulture. In 1913, in partnership with his brother Anton, he purchased



Dr. J. H. Koukel

forty acres on McKinley Avenue, five miles northwest of Fresno, and engaged in viticulture. In 1917, he purchased his brother's share and now conducts the vineyard alone and is making a specialty of muscat grapes. In addition to vines he has about one and one-half acres in peaches. His land is under the Fresno Canal, and he has sunk wells and put in pumps, as an auxiliary plant.

In 1914, Axel Pedersen was united in marriage with Miss Maren Hansen, daughter of Jacob Hansen, an early settler of Fresno County who at first was engaged in blacksmithing but afterwards followed ranching and who is now living in Fresno. Mrs. Pedersen was born in Fresno County and received her education in the public schools of Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Pedersen have two children: Robert and Glenn.

Mr. Pedersen is a member of Dania Society, No. 5, in Fresno, is an honored ex-president, and for four years was its efficient secretary, and has represented the order as a delegate to the state convention. He has been very successful in the operation of his vineyard, and is greatly interested in all aids to the horticultural and viticultural interests of the county. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

WILLIAM H. KONKEL.—Born near Clarinda, Page County, Iowa, October 13, 1856, William H. Konkell is a son of William and Anna (Berry) Konkell, both born in Pennsylvania, but who later went to Ohio where they were married. Later they moved to Indiana, where Mr. Konkell ran a farm and operated a sawmill until in 1856 when they located in Clarinda and purchased 200 acres of government land on the Nodaway River. This farm received such improvement that it was one of the best in the vicinity and the owners had much to do with the developing of their community. In 1870, they moved to Crawford County, Kans., near Girard, where he again bought some government land and improved it, and there he died in 1876. His widow, in 1887, moved to Baca County, Colo., where she homesteaded and improved her place. She died there January 19, 1905, at the age of seventy-seven years, the mother of fourteen children who grew up and of whom eight are still living.

William H. Konkell was the eighth child of the family and is the only one living in California. He was reared in Iowa where he attended the public school and when the family moved to Kansas he only had seven months school there, for he had to go to work when nineteen, but he continued to acquire an education, devoting his spare time to study and preparing for the future. When teaching, he devoted much time to study, and made it a rule never to appear before his classes without having made thorough preparation. He attended Normal school, where he profited by his studious habits, and when he was twenty years of age he obtained a teacher's certificate and taught school in Crawford County. He continued teaching for ten years, the last three years of the time as principal of schools at Mulberry, Kans.

In 1888, Mr. Konkell located in Colorado where he preempted and homesteaded land in Baca County, and here he improved his farm and raised stock, and also engaged in teaching school. He taught in the Boston district for nine years, and three years in other districts. After twenty-two years of teaching, Mr. Konkell devoted all of his time and attention to farming and stock-raising and as he prospered he bought more land until he possessed six sections, which he farmed and used for grazing. His brand a double N, with quarter circle slash, stood for quality. He succeeded as a stockman, but in 1910 he sold out his Colorado holdings to locate in California, and at Fresno he bought forty acres of his present ranch, and raised alfalfa and conducted a dairy. Later he bought forty acres adjoining, and later still another forty further west and now has 120 acres, eighty of which are in alfalfa. He has substantial buildings and a dairy herd of fifty-five Holstein cows and sells his

milk to the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association. He also engages in raising cattle.

In the spring of 1919, Mr. Konkel leased his ranch to two of his sons and with his wife, two sons and a daughter, made a trip by Buick automobile over the mountains to Colorado, via the Santa Fe Trail, visiting his old friends and haunts; then through Kansas to Kansas City, Mo., and returned to Colorado. They came by the Arrowhead Trail back to California, having made the trip of over 7,000 miles without a mishap and all had a pleasant journey and visit. Upon his return, he moved into Fresno where he resides with his family at 116 West Olive Street.

Mr. Konkel was married in Crawford County, Kans., October 3, 1878, to Miss Annie M. Stwalley, daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Royer) Stwalley, born in Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively, who moved to Kansas in 1876. Mrs. Konkel was born in Clay County, Ind. They have twelve children: Guy E., a minister of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Canon City, Colo.; Theodore Bliss, farming the home ranch in Roosevelt district, Fresno County; Jasper C., a soldier who served overseas and four months at the front in the Third Division; Fred L., who died in Kansas; Annie, wife of Vernon Nichols of Ontario, Cal.; Mary, who was the wife of Warren Brown, and who died in 1918 in Colorado; Daniel, a rancher of Fresno County; James Russell, who with his brother Theodore Bliss is operating the home ranch; Elizabeth, a graduate of Fresno State Normal, now teaching at Malaga; Gladys, deceased; Capitola, in Fresno High, Class of 1920; and Joe W., also attending Fresno High.

Mr. Konkel was a school trustee in the Roosevelt district for three terms, holding the office of clerk for all but one year of that time, during which there were two additional school-rooms built. He was a charter member of the A. O. U. W. in Mulberry, Kans., and still holds his membership there, and he was its first recorder. He is a member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church at Rolinda, is one of the board of trustees and is a class leader. He helped build the church, and is superintendent of two Sunday Schools, Sunday mornings at Rolinda, and at the Roosevelt school-house in the afternoons. He is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association, and is a Republican in politics. Mr. Konkel is a man of sterling worth, and is highly esteemed by his associates.

OSCAR E. PETERSON.—Oscar E. Peterson was born in Knox County, near Galva, Ill., on November 12, 1871, the son of Olof Peterson, who married Sigrid Johnson, and grew up on his father's farm, while he attended the public schools at Wataga, Ill. Later, he studied for three years at Knox College at Galesburg, Ill. At that time the Bank of Galesburg needed a bookkeeper, and the position having been offered him, Mr. Peterson abandoned the class-room and entered on his career as a banker. From bookkeeper he was soon advanced to teller; but in 1903, after eleven years of service, he left the Bank of Galesburg and went to Victoria, in Knox County, where he helped to organize the State Bank of Victoria, and became the bank's cashier. The concern started with only twenty-five thousand capital, but it became a solid and flourishing institution, successful in every respect. With the organizing of the Kingsburg Bank in 1910-11, Mr. Peterson came here, having been selected as its first cashier; and this responsible position he has held ever since, to the satisfaction of all concerned.

During these busy years, Mr. Peterson took a course in law by correspondence, supplemented by private study with Philip S. Post, county judge and master in chancery at Galesburg, Ill., now attorney for the International Harvester Company of Chicago; and by the Supreme Court of Illinois, on April 4, 1907, he was admitted, after due examination, to practice law.

Mr. Peterson was married at Galesburg, in 1899, to Miss Jennie Shoreen, a native of Galesburg and the daughter of T. J. and Malena Shoreen, and

two children have blessed the fortunate union. They are named Minnette and Millicent. The family attend the Swedish Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Kingsburg Bank was organized with the following board of directors: Nicholas J. Nelson, A. T. Carlson, J. L. Norman, A. W. Sward, J. P. H. Applequist, John Peterson and Philip G. Peterson, while the following officers immediately took charge: President, Nicholas G. Nelson; First Vice-president, A. T. Carlson; Second Vice-president, J. L. Norman; and Cashier, O. E. Peterson. It was equipped, as a commercial and savings bank, with burglar-proof safes and a fine safe deposit vault. On May 12, 1911, its deposits amounted to \$33,532.32; in 1912 they were \$91,523.67; in 1913, \$119,838.20; in 1914, \$123,980.84; in 1915, \$151,358.45; in 1916, \$201,190.37; in 1917, \$367,848.82; in 1918, \$495,691.41; and on May 12, 1919, the deposits totalled to the magnificent mark of \$686,762.58. The bank's resources on that date were: Loans and bonds, \$588,074.36; building and fixtures, \$20,680; cash and due from banks, \$150,040.43; while the liabilities were: Capital, \$50,000; surplus, \$19,000; profits, \$3,032.26; and deposits, \$686,762.53, making a total of \$758,794.79. Its officers had then become: Directors, Nicholas G. Nelson, A. T. Carlson, J. L. Norman, Philip G. Peterson, John Peterson, J. P. H. Applequist, and O. E. Peterson; President, Nicholas G. Nelson; First Vice-president, A. T. Carlson; Second Vice-president, J. L. Norman; Cashier, O. E. Peterson; First Assistant Cashier, C. F. Draper; and Second Assistant Cashier, E. Ed Peterson.

K. E. ENSHER.—The subject of this review, K. E. Ensher, is one of the progressive young ranchers in the vicinity of Mendota, and is a pioneer developer of that new farming section of Fresno County and is a member of Ensher Brothers, one of the largest market-gardening firms in the county. K. E. Ensher was born near Harpoot, Asia Minor, on July 11, 1883, a son of Dr. Elias E. Ensher, who was educated in New York City and after graduating in medicine returned to Harpoot, where he engaged in the practice of his profession. During the atrocious massacre of Christians by the Turks, in 1895, Dr. Ensher was imprisoned for one year at Trebizond, after which he migrated with his family to Batoom, Russia, where he remained for a few months.

During the month of September, 1897, Dr. Ensher emigrated to the United States, locating with his family in the state of Massachusetts where he engaged in farming. In 1902, he came to California and was so pleased with the climate and the opportunities that he returned to Massachusetts, sold his property and brought his family to Fresno County where he purchased the present ranch of Ensher Brothers, consisting of thirty-seven acres on Madison Avenue. He devoted his ranch to the raising of vegetables and berries, and was assisted in the operation of the place by his son, K. E. Ensher. Dr. and Mrs. Ensher were the parents of eight children, all of whom are living. The Doctor passed away in 1910, his widow still survives him. Their children are: Frank, a member of the firm of Ensher Brothers, who is now retired and resides on the home place; K. E., our subject; Soorain, also a member of the firm and manager of the home place; Hoomayc, another member of the firm, assisting his brother, K. E., in developing and operating the Mendota ranch; Mrs. P. Alexderian, who lives in San Francisco; Mrs. S. Barsoon, of Kearney Boulevard; Victoria, living at home; and Jennie residing in San Francisco.

K. E. Ensher was about fourteen years of age when his father and family came to Massachusetts, and while living in the Bay State attended school but for a short time as he assisted his father on the farm until the family moved to California, in 1903. He and his brothers continued to assist the father in the work of the ranch, gardening and raising of vegetables and berries, until his death in 1910, after which the brothers operated the ranch for five years for the benefit of the estate and during this period they paid off all

debts against the property. The Ensher Brothers purchased the ranch from the estate and are operating it as a wholesale vegetable-growing enterprise, the business having grown to be the largest of its kind in this section of the county. Their products are shipped to Fresno, but when there is a surplus it is shipped to neighboring towns or marketed in San Francisco or Los Angeles.

In 1917, K. E. Ensher, together with his brother, Hoomayc and Mr. Alexderian, purchased 160 acres of land near Mendota, upon which they sank a well 1,200 feet deep; there is an abundant flow of water and an electric pumping-plant gives 1,000 gallons per minute, the whole having cost the promoters over \$10,000. They have developed a fine place, having sixty acres in alfalfa, forty in asparagus and the balance in beans and egg-plant. In addition they have leased the adjoining 320 acres which they have put into wheat and are raising it by irrigation. They are progressive and up-to-date ranchers, pioneers in irrigating with a pumping-plant, in their section, and are greatly interested in every enterprise that will develop this part of the county.

In 1910, K. E. Ensher was united in marriage with Miss Eunice Braves, also a native of Asia Minor, the ceremony being solemnized in Fresno, and they are the parents of one son, Earl.

W. T. HAMILTON.—Prominent among the representatives of those stanch old American families famous for their participation in the history of our country must be mentioned W. T. Hamilton, a descendant of the sturdy stock from which also sprung the great statesman Alexander Hamilton. Our subject is the well-known dealer in general merchandise at Riverdale.

Descended from an old Southern family that originally came from England, where his forefathers were cavaliers who had been in authority there since the time of William the Conqueror, Mr. Hamilton was born near Pinckneyville, in Perry County, Ill., on July 24, 1864. His father was Woods L. Hamilton, a native of Kentucky, and his mother was Sarah L. Armstrong before her marriage. She, too, was born in Illinois of one of the earliest families in the southern part of that state. Mr. Hamilton has two brothers in Illinois, John and Albert Hamilton. W. T. is the only one in California. There were five sisters, none living. W. T. Hamilton grew up on a farm in Southern Illinois and attended the public schools where he was a student in arithmetic and geography. His schooling was cut short for his father died when he was only three years old, and his mother died a few years later.

In 1882, Mr. Hamilton moved to Kansas and from there he went to the Indian Territory, where he rode the range for two years. He then went back to Illinois for a few years and, in 1888, when the great land boom was at its height in California he came from Illinois to Fresno. He knew Mr. Pollasky, and he lived in the town of Pollasky when the railway was put through. He drove ten and twelve horses on a plow and hauled lumber from Pine Ridge; he farmed to grain; he did wood work and grading on the railway then building, and in 1898 he bought a ranch of 240 acres in Madera County, and improved that. All in all he farmed about a thousand acres to grain.

Mr. Hamilton had a hard and varied experience when he first came to California. He was disgusted for awhile with life in Fresno and Fresno County, for he was then thrown in with laboring men and foreigners who could not speak English. Moreover, he had no money, and if he had had he would have gone back to Illinois. As it was, he was obliged to remain.

He was married in 1892 at Fresno to Miss Sarah L. Blair, daughter of Thomas Blair, a pioneer at Big Sandy; and later he sold his farm in Madera County and came down to Clovis, in Fresno County, where he bought a twenty-acre vineyard. At the same time, in 1910, he purchased a general merchandise store at Friant, now Pollasky, and having run it for two years he sold it to Collins Brothers. Then he went back to his vineyard for a year,



Joseph Dussani

and next became manager of the International Land Company's interests which had 6,000 acres in grain, figs and vines.

In 1913 Mr. Hamilton resigned this position, and in November of the same year he came to Riverdale and bought out William Henson's general merchandise store. He also owns stock in the Cooperative Creamery at Riverdale.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton have three children. Ruth is the wife of Lee Gross, who owns two ranches, one at Garfield and the other at Friant. Glenn R. volunteered for service in May, 1917, when nineteen years of age and served with the Ninth Aviation Squadron in France. After serving four months in France, he was transferred to Germany where he served with the Army of Occupation for five months. He was honorably discharged at the Presidio, July 7, 1919, and is now at home. Ardene, graduated from the Riverdale High in June, 1919.

Mr. Hamilton served on the committees of each drive in the Liberty Loans, the Red Cross, and the Y. M. C. A. In national politics he is a Republican, but he does not allow party lines to interfere with his support of good local measures. He has served as clerk of the board of trustees in the school district where he lived and farmed in Madera County. He gives his time to his business which is conducted in a large double store building with ample warehouses in connection.

JOSEPH OUSSANI.—To boast of an ancestry reaching back to the Chaldeans, to rejoice that he came from one of the proudest and stablest of modern races, is the privilege of Joseph Oussani, who may also congratulate himself in having not only contributed to the success of one of the greatest world's fairs ever organized by Americans, but, after establishing important commercial interests in the Eastern States, in coming to Fresno County, Cal., to give his experience and enterprise in the further development of this most promising section.

Mr. Oussani was born in far-away, mystic Bagdad, in Mesopotamia, Asia Minor, on December 21, 1865, the son of Thomas Oussani, who is descended from one of the oldest Christian families in Bagdad, where the family and its numerous connections have lived for many generations and may trace its blood back to the ancient Chaldeans from Babylonia. His father was a farmer and a stockman, making a specialty of sheep-raising; and was widely known as very sympathetic and kind, and heartbroken that his country was compelled to suffer so terribly from Turkish atrocities. He lived to the ripe old age of eighty-six; and his widow now resides with her children in New York City. Among the three children surviving from a family of five, one son is a manufacturer in New York City, and another is a priest there.

Joseph Oussani was reared in Bagdad and received a good education in both the Arabic and French languages, in which he is still very proficient, and when nineteen started out for himself, traveling by caravan to Persia, a trip of thirty days, at length reaching Teheran, the capital of Persia, where he became a dry-goods merchant. After three years in business there, he returned south to Kermancha, a twelve-days' trip from Teheran, and for two years was engaged in buying rugs in large quantities, the same being then sent by caravan to Bagdad, and thence shipped into different parts of Europe and the New World. This Oriental commercial experience contributed greatly to the rounding out of Mr. Oussani's education; so that when new and far more attractive opportunity opened the way for him, he was ready as the man of the hour.

On the building of the World's Fair in Chicago, for example, Mr. Oussani, with his brother Yak, came to that city and they together erected the Persian Palace, still recalled with pleasure by all who remember the crowning features of the Midway Plaisance; and in this artistic and gorgeous edifice, they had an equally gorgeous exhibit of beautiful Persian goods and Oriental rugs—an exhibit that was greatly enjoyed and most favorably com-

mented upon by multitudes of visitors. The effort was a decided financial success, but what gratified the Oussani brothers was that they had really contributed to the success of the fair.

At the termination of the World's Fair, the brothers returned to New York City and as partners opened a store at the corner of Madison Avenue and Twenty-third Street for the sale of Persian goods and antique Oriental rugs; and about the same time they opened another business, quite different, for the manufacture of Turkish or Egyptian cigarettes. The business grew rapidly, and after a while they found a better location for the art goods on Broadway. Yak Oussani had charge of the rugs and Persian novelties, and Joseph looked after the manufacture of cigarettes, which they sold at both retail and wholesale rates. In 1900, however, they dissolved partnership, at the same time selling the store; and Yak took over the cigarette factory.

Joseph then entered what was to him an altogether new field—that of realty, in New York City. He bought and improved lots, built residences and improved them; finally disposing of most of his holdings except two elegant apartment houses on Cathedral Parkway, near One Hundred Tenth Street, opposite Central Park. Each of these was built seven stories high, with one hundred-foot front, and with twenty-eight large apartments, of seven to eight rooms each. One having a granite front is named "Semi-ramis," after the queen of the seven hanging gardens of Babylon. The other, a gothic of glazed white terra cotta, is "The Zenobia," named for the Queen of Palmyra. These, with other choice business property in New York, afford him a snug fortune. For some years, too, Mr. Oussani owned sixty-four acres at Pocantico Hills, in Westchester County, adjoining the site of the John D. Rockefeller residence, and having improved the same, he sold the tract to Mr. Rockefeller at a good profit.

Wishing to find a more equable climate, however, Mr. Oussani concluded to try the Pacific Coast; and so, in 1915, during the San Francisco Exposition, he came west to California. He traveled throughout the state; and after a careful investigation selected Fresno as the location offering, all in all, the greatest inducements. The same November he purchased the old George Helm place, seven miles northeast of Fresno, consisting of 320 acres; and he began to make the most of the splendid soil. He improved 160 to vines, forty in emperor grapes, forty in malagas, and seventy-five in muscat or raisin grapes, all of the shipping quality; and as the balance had been uncultivated, he put the first plow into it, attended to the leveling of the land, and immediately set out forty acres in Thompson's seedless, forty in sultanas, and forty in calimyrna figs, interset with plums of different varieties. He spent in all over \$60,000 improving the property, which is now in the finest condition.

Although giving the detailed attention to his agricultural holdings, Mr. Oussani resides with his family in his artistic residence at the corner of Ventura Avenue and Fourth Street, Fresno; leaving the cosy corner once a year to revisit New York and look after his investments there. From the beginning he has been interested in the success of the various raisin associations, and he is a decidedly live wire in the California Associated Raisin Company.

While in New York City, Mr. Oussani was married to Miss Gladys Holmes, a native of London, England. Mr. Oussani indulges his taste for travel, as when, in October, 1910, with his family, he set out on a tour of the Old World, visiting England at the time of the coronation of King George, going to points of interest on the continent, and having the pleasure and distinction of an audience with Pope Pius X., and also visiting the Coliseum and Catacombs of Rome. Their trip extended to Egypt, Syria and Mount Lebanon, and they returned to New York in 1911. In 1912 they made another trip to Europe, spending two winters in Egypt, and returning to their home in 1914.

W. W. WARD.—Born at Sandusky, Ohio, on January 24, 1852, W. W. Ward was the son of John and Mary (Lantz) Ward, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, but who were married in Ohio. When very young, the lad left Sandusky with his parents and came to Toledo, where he remained for two years; and after that he was brought to Iowa and there John Ward farmed until, in 1860, he crossed the great plains, being four months and four days in ox teams on the trails. The party which consisted of the father, mother and six children, started from the Missouri River with two ox teams. Some of the seven children in this family were born in Ohio; some in Iowa; and one in California. The parents settled at Stockton, where they camped under a big oak tree; and that hospitable old tree continued to be their home while the father, practically bankrupt, worked out for one dollar a day.

W. W. Ward, the second eldest child, and the oldest now living, attended the public schools in Iowa and California; but as soon as he was able, he also worked out to help the family, and for five or six years before he was twenty-one, he gave all his earnings to his father; and after he had reached maturity, he continued to work for others. When at last he had made and saved a little money, he struck out for himself.

At the age of twenty-four he bought 160 acres near Stockton, eight miles to the southeast of the town, agreeing to pay \$4,000 for the same; and since he could deposit but \$500, he thus went into debt to the amount of \$3,500. To get the latter amount, he paid one and a half per cent. interest a month; and to command the interest, he worked out besides working on his own ranch. That summer he bought an old header for sixty dollars; and with the same he cut 1,100 acres of grain, from the proceeds of which he paid for the header and had some five hundred dollars to spare, in addition to the crop he had cut. He raised a crop on this farm, and made an additional payment of \$500 on it; and then he sold the whole for \$5,600.

With the profit thus realized, Mr. Ward made the first cash-down payment on a 480-acre tract which he purchased for \$8,000; a tract lying twelve miles east of Stockton; and having kept it for three years, and improved it, he disposed of that for \$22,500.

The next year, 1883, he went to Texas with the intention of going into the cattle business; but while looking around for the best opportunity to invest, and boarding at the National Hotel at Dallas, he accepted an offer to buy the hostelry, and ran it for ten months. Then he sold the hotel for \$3,000 and came back to California, the only place, he thought, to have a real home.

He visited two brothers at Kingsburg, and was induced to buy a hotel there; taking charge, in 1884, of the Welch Hotel, which he managed for five years. He also began to buy and sell land; and he has since then bought and sold numerous farms and has also engaged extensively in the cattle business, in which he has been successful. Now he owns 800 acres in Kings and Tulare Counties, and although he has sold everything else except his little house in Kingsburg, where he lives, he is rated the richest man in that prosperous town.

About the time of the early eighties, Mr. Ward was married to Miss Julia Gann of Stockton, near which city she had been born; but this devoted wife died soon after he came back to Kingsburg, in 1884. She left four children—Charles H., now a rancher at Kingsburg; Josie, the wife of M. C. Hust, also a rancher of Kingsburg; Ivy, the wife of Vincent Marker, living at Stockton; and Lois, the wife of W. W. Causey, with her home near Kingsburg. For the second time, in 1884, Mr. Ward was married, then choosing Miss Rachel Kerrick, a native of Stockton, as his wife. Mrs. Ward is known for her charming qualities as a neighborly woman, and Mr. Ward locally famous as a good-natured, sympathetic business man and capable of telling a good story.

JAMES J. TRANBERG.—A prominent viticulturist and orchardist, and influential as a Socialist seeking progress and much-needed reforms, is James J. Tranberg who, with his estimable wife, hospitable and studious like himself, is much interested in the history of California and the preservation of its absorbing annals. He was born at Gudhjem, Island of Bornholm, Denmark, September 1, 1870, the son of Hans J. Tranberg, who went to sea when he was a boy, and who sailed to many important cities in the Old and New World. Once he rounded the Horn on a voyage to Valparaiso, after which he returned to New York. He remained in America awhile, but at the outbreak of the Civil War returned to Denmark. He was a patriot, through and through, and in 1864 served on a monitor in the Danish Navy, during the Danish-German War. In 1867 he was married to Miss Mattia Johansen, and was afterwards engaged in the fishing trade, for which he owned his fishing-boat. He died at the age of seventy-five, in 1914, survived by his faithful wife, the devoted mother of four children.

The second eldest of these and the only boy in the family, James J. attended school until he was fourteen, after which he went to work in a steamship office. Two years later he went to sea, and for six years was a sailor in the coasting trade. This prepared him for the half-year of compulsory service in the Danish Navy, in which he distinguished himself for alertness and fidelity. He received the coveted honorable discharge.

Attracted by the glowing reports of life on the shores of the Pacific, Mr. Tranberg, in April, 1892, reached the busy city of San Francisco, and soon thereafter secured work on a farm near Modesto. He next set sail from San Francisco for Alaska to take part, for the summer of 1895, in the cod-fish trade, and this he liked so well that he again visited the northern waters in 1896. Strange to say, however, he did not learn of the discovery of gold in the Klondyke until his return to San Francisco, and then he was ready to return to Denmark via Panama and New York.

For eighteen months he was a sailor again in the coasting trade, and then he assisted on a fishing-boat. The hazardous life of the sea made him long for a fireside of his own, and on October 24, 1899, at Copenhagen, he was married to Miss Johanna Hirsch, who was born in that city. Her father was William Hirsch and her mother had been Adolphine Reinholtz. They were born in Germany of Lutheran families, and were married in 1870; and her father, who was a shoe merchant in Hamburg, was a sergeant in the Franco-Prussian War. In 1877, he migrated to Copenhagen, where he opened a shoe-store and became a citizen of Denmark and there reared a family; and there he remained until he disposed of his business. Both the father and the mother are still living, the parents of nine children, six of whom grew to maturity. The only one in the United States is Mrs. Tranberg, the third oldest, who was educated in Copenhagen, where she attended the grammar and high schools, and then took a course in the business college. They migrated to California and on October 21, 1900, Mr. Tranberg and family arrived in Fresno, stopping over by chance for a few days on the way to San Francisco; but he became interested in the county and prolonged his visit. He found employment in a vineyard, and liked the work so well that he chose it. In fact, in 1903, he bought twenty acres in the Eggers Colony, and set to work to level and improve it. He and a neighbor took out a ditch from the Enterprise Canal, and there he planted alfalfa and conducted a thriving vineyard. He made all the necessary improvements, including the erection of a residence and outbuildings, and the place had a vineyard of eleven acres, planted to Malagas and Thompsons; also five acres of peaches and figs, and the balance in alfalfa. In 1918 he sold the ranch at a good



James Tranberg.
Johanna Tranberg

profit and moved to a residence he purchased in Clovis, where he resides with his family. In April, 1919, he bought ten acres of vineyard, two miles north of Clovis, set to Malagas, Muscats and Zinfandels. He is a member of the Melvin Grape Growing Association, and also of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

Five children bear the honored name of Tranberg: George is a graduate of the Class of '18 of the Clovis Union High School; Arthur, attending Clovis Union High, class of 1922; and Edith, James, Jr., and Ruth all in grammar school, complete the circle. Mr. Tranberg is a member of the Danish Brotherhood and Mrs. Tranberg is a member in the Danish Sisterhood of America. Mr. Tranberg is a loyal citizen of the United States and a warm advocate of the socialistic doctrine.

JOHN FOSTER.—Among the sterling characters who contributed to the development of California by old England was John Foster, who, coming to America in his young manhood, presently joined the stream of hardy adventurers who made that epochal journey across the plains by ox team upon the discovery of gold in California. After a period of gold-mining near Angels, Calaveras County, he established his family near Tracy, San Joaquin County, where he engaged in sheep-raising, which was one of the important pioneer industries of the west. In 1874 he sent his flocks to Fresno County where they were grazed in the hills and mountains during the summers, and in the valley during the winters, as was the custom of the time and circumstances. His winter camp was located in the neighborhood now occupied by the cemeteries, but which was then the open plains. Mr. Foster's summer sheep camp being situated in the mountains, it was the owner's custom to carry supplies to his herders by pack-animals through the forests and along unfrequented trails. It was when employed on this errand that he was last seen alive on July 11, 1882. A few days later his lifeless body was found lying by the lonely trail, his pack-horses feeding about and his little dog standing guard. The spot is marked by an inscribed zinc band on the tree, and that mountain ridge bears his name. The remains were brought down the mountain and, July 21, were interred in the family plot in Mountain View Cemetery. Mr. Foster had reached the age of fifty-two.

Along with his sheep industry John Foster conducted a lumber business in partnership with his brother, William Foster, on their lots on both corners of H and Fresno Streets, those lots continuing in possession of the family for many years. As a home for himself and family Mr. Foster purchased six lots on K Street (now Van Ness) between Merced and Tuolumne, then considered to be very far out. There he had erected a comfortable, attractive and very well-built six-room house, which was for forty years the dwelling place of his heirs,—by whom the whole property is still owned.

On June 1, 1919 the remaining members of the family sought other shelter. Their home, one of the last of the houses of Fresno's pioneer era was moved away, and there is now under construction on the entire area of 150 x 150 feet a handsome, modern building which will stand for many years as a monument to the foresight and thrift of that kindly, honest man, John Foster, and to the self-sacrifice, patience and courage of his daughter, Annie Foster Hopkins.

John Foster married on February 16, 1857, in Angels, Calaveras County, Miss Lydia Wilson, herself a native of England. Miss Wilson, accompanied by a younger sister, had journeyed to California by way of Cape Horn to join a married sister who was already established in the new land with her husband and children. There were born to Mr. and Mrs. Foster two daughters: Annie, who became the wife of Dr. H. St. George Hopkins, a prominent

physician of the city, and Emma who married John W. Rogers; she died in August, 1896, and lies near her father in Mountain View.

In the person of Mrs. Lydia Foster, well and active at the age of ninety-five, Fresno honors probably the oldest inhabitant—certainly one of the longest continuous residents. A woman of gentle descent, who had studied and traveled in the continental countries as well as her native England, Mrs. Lydia Wilson Foster is a lady of kind and gracious manner, and noble simplicity of character. In her nearly a century of life she has seen unroll the most wonderful span of the history of the world.

JESSE R. CHURCH.—The expansion of Fresno, which has occasioned an unprecedented number of building operations of all kinds, including brick blocks, palatial residences, and more modest structures of all classes in the various business and residential sections, affords unlimited opportunities for all people engaged in industries and enterprises having to do with building operations.

Among the leading contractors of Fresno who have contributed much to its growth and prosperity, Jesse R. Church of 221 U Street is well known as a first class, reliable and conscientious workman. He is a native of Fresno, born December 25, 1879, and is the son of John M. and Belle (Springton) Church. His mother is also a native of California, born in Lake County. His grandfather, Moses J. Church, crossed the plains to California in pioneer days and located in Napa County where he was a land owner and rancher. Later, in the early seventies he located in Fresno when it was little more than a hamlet, and was known as the "father of the irrigation ditch." He built the first irrigation ditch, which ran through Fresno Street in early days. He also built the first flour mill in Fresno, which he owned and ran, and which was located on Fresno Street where the present Sperry mill stands. He rented many acres of the old Easterby ranch east of Fresno, upon which he raised grain and also engaged in sheep and cattle raising. He was a prominent member of and officer in the Seventh Day Adventist Church and built the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Fresno. He was largely instrumental in the advancement and development of the city.

The late M. J. Church donated forty acres of land, which was the nucleus of the Mountain View Cemetery at Fresno. That now affords the last resting place for his remains. He had many admirers and personal friends; one of them, namely, Fulton G. Berry, Fresno County pioneer, and a former owner of the Grand Central Hotel, erected a fine monument to Mr. Church; this monument among other inscriptions reveals the fact that it was erected out of personal admiration, "From one who knew his worth."

His son, John M., a child two years of age when his parents crossed the plains, was brought up and educated in Napa County, Cal. He came to Fresno with his father and was the pioneer furniture man of Fresno. He opened a furniture store on Fresno Street near I Street, and for twenty years was engaged in the furniture business. He owned and developed a vineyard on North First Street, and in the early days carried the mail from Fresno to White's Bridge. He was also in partnership with his father in the sheep and cattle business in the early days. He was a prominent member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. He died February, 1912. His wife is still living.

Jesse R. attended the public schools of Fresno and later a business college at Healdsburg, Cal., where he took a stenographic and business course. He worked with his father in the furniture store at Fresno and later took up the trade of carpenter and worked for James M. Smith, the contractor, still later entering the contracting and building business for himself. He has erected over one hundred buildings in Fresno, among which are many of the best residences in the city, a dormitory at the Normal School and four flat build-

ings in North Fresno in the Normal school district, besides many others (notable among which are the S. E. Black, J. O. Keig, George Haines and E. C. Van Buren residences). He built twelve homes of his own and disposed of them. At present he has retired from active building operations. When active he had three or four houses under construction all the time. He has been a life long member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church of Fresno, of which he is trustee and elder.

He was united in marriage with Maude May Shaw, a native of Nebraska who came to California when a little girl with her mother, and resided in Healdsburg and Oakland, coming to Fresno in 1901. She is a deaconess in the Seventh Day Adventist Church and an officer in the Ladies' Auxiliary.

EUGENE A. MOWER.—A worthy resident of California since 1885 is Eugene A. Mower, deputy county auditor for many years. He was born in Bangor, Maine, June 10, 1862, a son of George and Elizabeth (Eastman) Mower, both natives of Maine, of old New England stock, traced back to Massachusetts, who spent their entire lives in the State of Maine. Of their seven children Eugene is the second oldest and the only one living in California.

Eugene Mower, after completing the public school courses, attended the Eastern State Normal at Castine, Maine. Finishing the course there, in 1882, he engaged in teaching for a year and then followed farming on the old New England homestead that has been in the family for eighty-five years. The old house is still standing and is in good condition.

Wishing to migrate to the Pacific Coast, Mr. Mower came to San Francisco in 1885 and spent four years with William H. Rouse and Company, a wholesale produce commission house. In 1889 he came to Reedley, Fresno County, as superintendent of the California Fruit and Wine Land Company, a position he filled for some years. He then spent some time mining in Tuolumne County, and then returned to Fresno. In January, 1899, he became deputy county auditor under H. E. Barnum, continuing with him until his death, except two years while he was county expert, and a short time while he served as deputy county treasurer. On the death of Horace E. Barnum, Mr. Mower continued as chief deputy under his successor, Charles E. Barnum.

Mr. Mower was married in Fresno to Mrs. Evelyn (Dearing) Barnum, a native daughter of the state. Mr. Mower is a member of Las Palmas Lodge of Masons, and is also a member of the Foresters, Woodmen of the World and Royal Arcanum. Mr. and Mrs. Mower attend the Baptist Church in Fresno.

CARL EMIL JOHNSON.—A rising young man who has done much to improve land and property interests by the setting out of orchards and vineyards, and who has thus contributed much toward the development of the district, so that he is both highly respected and well liked, is Carl Emil Johnson, who came to California at the beginning of the present century. He was born in Delarne, Sweden, on February 5, 1879, the son of John Johnson, a progressive farmer still living there. Anna Johnson, the beloved mother of eight children, six of whom grew to maturity, died in her native land. Four of her sons came out to California; and the third in the family is Carl Emil.

C. E. Johnson attended the public schools and learned the trades of an electrician, a carpenter, and a blacksmith. He followed electrical work in Sweden, and was several years foreman for great electrical establishments in Ludvig. When he embarked for the United States in 1901, he was finely equipped for success in the New World. He remained over a year at Centerville, S. D., and in 1902 came to Fresno. He mined awhile, then bought twenty acres in the Vinland Colony, for which he paid \$35 an acre, and then worked out at various places. He was longest at San Francisco as a carpenter; and he also did electrical work and mining in Mariposa County. He was

particularly successful at carpentering in the Bay metropolis, and made enough money to pay for both his ranch, and the ranch improvements.

About 1908, Mr. Johnson settled on his property and built a residence; and he has been occupied with its management ever since. He has a Bean spraying outfit, and contracts to spray orchards and vines. All the improvements have been made by him, and he has five acres of alfalfa, fifteen acres of peaches and apricots, including Muirs and clingstones, and the whole estate borders on Shaw Avenue. He is a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and also a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company. Mr. Johnson attends the Swedish Lutheran Church, and joins with his fellow members in good works.

ELVIA BRANNON.—A careful, assiduous, thorough and eminently successful oil-man who also enjoys an agreeable popularity among the many who know him as one of the most generous and affable of every-day fellows, is Elvia Brannon, the experienced production foreman for the Coalinga Mohawk Oil Company. He was born at Bolivar, Mo., on September 10, 1889, the son of John Brannon, also a native of that state and a farmer there. A. B. Brannon, the grandfather, did his full duty by the Union in serving as a soldier in the Civil War. Mrs. John Brannon was Martha Reeser before she married, and she was also a native Missourian. She had a grandfather, John Reeser, who was also a Union Army soldier. Four children were born to this excellent couple: Lee, who is in the overseas army; Elvia, the subject of our instructive review; William, also a soldier enlisted to fight autocracy; and Atha, who is at home.

The second eldest in the family, Elvia was brought up on a farm while he attended the public schools of his neighborhood. He remained home until 1907, when he came to California. He settled at Coalinga and entered the employ of the American Petroleum Oil Company. He began as a well-puller at the bottom, and was with the company three years, during which time he became head well-puller. He then joined the British Consolidated in the Coalinga field, and for fourteen months dressed tools for the concern. After that he was transferred, as lease foreman for the Associated Oil Company, at Orcutt, in the Santa Maria field, and there he continued until 1916, when he resigned to accept his present post.

In national politics a Democrat, but in local affairs always working for the measures and men likely to be best for the community or district regardless of party politics, Mr. Brannon believes in doing what he can to promote good citizenship; for a well-governed country is not only the best place in which to live, but by all odds the best place in which to do a thriving and equitable business.

A. ALBRECHT.—Among the enterprising and successful men who have engaged in viticulture in Fresno County, A. Albrecht deserves mention. He was born in the province of Schleswig, Denmark, January, 1861, before that province was ceded to Germany by the Danes, and is the son of Amos Albrecht, a tanner, who was engaged in manufacturing leather until he retired.

Of the six children in the parental home, four boys and two girls, only two of the boys are living. Mr. Albrecht being the youngest of all. He was educated in the public schools and served an apprenticeship at blacksmithing for three years. In May, 1879, he came to the United States, locating at Sycamore, De Kalb County, Ill., where he worked on a farm and at his trade. In November, 1883, he came to California and traveled through the San Joaquin Valley, stopping at Fresno. He found the town and the country new at that time and they did not appeal to him. In January, 1884, he located at Orange, Cal., where he built a blacksmith shop and engaged in blacksmithing, wagon making, and the manufacture of plows, cultivators and other farming implements. Under the firm name of Albrecht and Struck,



Peter Miller
Emilie Miller

he built up a large business and employed six or seven men. In 1900 his wife became ill and he came to Fresno on account of her health, having sold his interest in the business to his partner.

Mr. Albrecht was married near Sebastopol, Sonoma County, to Miss Mary Hennecke, born in Indiana, and they became the parents of three children. Sophia is the wife of August Halemeier, a rancher on Locan Avenue; Emma is Mrs. Denneson, of Fresno; and Maggie, died at the age of five years. Mrs. Albrecht died in Fresno in 1906.

In 1900 Mr. Albrecht purchased a fifty-acre vineyard on Ventura Avenue, and engaged in viticulture. In 1908 he sold this land and bought forty acres that was unimproved, lying in the Myers tract on Locan Avenue. This he has set to wine grapes and peaches. After many years of hard and exacting labor to improve his various pieces of property he retired in 1913, to make his home in Fresno. He is a well-read man, an interesting conversationalist and a man of much public spirit. He was a trustee of the Locan school district for four years and was instrumental in having the new school house erected. He has always favored the workings of the California Associated Raisin Association and has been a member ever since he began the growing of grapes. In the afternoon of his life he can look back upon a life well-spent and into the future without fear for he has tried to "do unto others as he would have others do unto him."

PETER MILLER.—One of the really progressive men in his section of the county, is Peter Miller, who always leads the van. He has as nice a farm as one could wish, where he has applied the latest word of science and has been able to demonstrate more than one scientific accomplishment of himself; and whatever is pleasing and stimulating to the eye of the student who visits there, is due largely to his own unaided efforts.

He owns 250 acres, all of which was in an unproductive and uninviting state in 1901, when he bought it. During the intervening years, by hard labor and intelligence he has brought it to a high degree of cultivation, and today devotes the acreage to vineyard purposes, an orchard, and general farming.

Expressive of Mr. Miller's ideas as to how things ought to be done, his farm buildings are of modern construction and eminently practical, in each case admirably serving the purpose for which they were erected. His crops are no less a testimonial to his ability, as he produces raisins that are as fine as any grown in the state. He has twelve men all the year around, and in the busiest season he employs from seventy-five to a hundred workers. His annual pay-roll amounts to \$12,000. What he contracts for, he dispenses cheerfully; and his word being as good as his bond, the money is there when the work has been done or the goods delivered. Mr. Miller is above all things a practical rancher, who has learned by experience the secrets of success in agricultural enterprises.

He was born in Denmark, on March 14, 1863, and is the son of Christian and Anna (Jensen) Miller, both worthy children of Denmark's soil. To them were born ten children, of whom seven emigrated to America. Peter, the subject of this review, was the first to migrate, and then came Hans, Neil, Laura, Katherina, Josie, and Caroline.

In 1890, Peter Miller was wedded to Miss Emilie Jansen, who was also born in Denmark. They have had four children, and all have so developed in their character and ability as to win both place and friends: Carl, who married Miss Clare Hendricksen; Arthur, who married Miss Edith Swansen; and Alma, and Alfred.

Sanger has always given a royal welcome to those who come from foreign shores to pitch their tents within her borders and to share in her great progress, and she never fails to accord credit for hard work and intelligent, unselfish effort, and, when it comes to distribute the honors, Sanger will

not forget the good work and the good lives of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Miller and their family.

Mr. Miller helped organize the California Associated Raisin Company and holds stock in the concern. He also helped organize, and is a stockholder in the Commercial Bank of Sanger.

REUBEN H. BRAMLET and EUPHEMIA E. BRAMLET.—One of the most prominent and honored club women of Fresno County, and ex-chairman of the History and Landmarks Department of the San Joaquin Valley District of the California Woman's Federation of Clubs, Mrs. R. H. Bramlet, is a pioneer of Fresno County. R. H. Bramlet is a pioneer citizen, pioneer educator in the county and a popular ex-county officer who has done his part to help build up the county.

Mr. Bramlet is a worthy representative of the distinguished Bramlet family of England, early settlers at Jamestown, Va., in Colonial Days. He was born near Raleigh, Saline County, Ill., February 7, 1842. His great-grandfather was born in England and after settling in America became a planter. He had three sons in the Revolutionary War, one of these was Reuben Bramlet, the grandfather of R. H. Bramlet of Fresno County, who was also in the war of 1812, and took part in the Battle of New Orleans. After the close of the Revolution, Reuben went to Charleston, S. C., and later removed to Princeton, Caldwell County, Ky., where his son, Coleman Brown Bramlet, the father of R. H. Bramlet of Fresno County, was born. Coleman B. Bramlet followed agricultural pursuits and, in 1818, removed with the other members of the family to Saline County, Ill., where, in 1823, he was united in marriage with Miss Susan Upchurch, a young woman of Scotch extraction whose grandfather fought in the Revolutionary War, also in the War of 1812 and served with distinction under General Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans. Of this union ten children were born, of whom the eighth child, R. H. Bramlet, is the oldest one living. Coleman Bramlet lived to the advanced age of eighty-seven; the mother passed away at the age of eighty-five.

R. H. Bramlet grew up on his father's farm in the "Egypt" of Illinois where he remained until he had reached his twenty-fifth year. On May 3, 1867, he left Illinois and started for California via the Isthmus, landing at San Francisco, June 3, 1867. Of studious inclinations, the occupation of a pedagogue appealed to him and he attended the University of the Pacific at Santa Clara with the view of becoming a teacher. He came to Fresno County in 1870, passed the teacher's examination and was licensed to teach and that fall he taught a private school. The first public school that he taught was at the copper mine at Buchanan and during 1870-1871 he taught the Fresno Flats public school; he also taught in Dalton and in Fresno City. He was one of the first public school teachers in Fresno. Mrs. Mary J. Hoxie of Fresno has the distinction of teaching the first private school in that city. Mr. Bramlet continued to teach in Fresno and vicinity until he became candidate for County Superintendent of Schools in 1875; was elected in November of that year and served during 1876 and 1877. The offices of County Superintendent of Schools and County Auditor were then merged to that of auditor and ex-officio county superintendent, to which office Mr. Bramlet was elected in 1877 and served during 1878 and 1879, then was reelected and served during the years 1880 and 1881. A law was then made to provide for two separate offices. For five consecutive terms of two years each—from 1882 to 1892—Mr. Bramlet was elected and served as county auditor. For four years and a half he taught school and served as deputy assessor under three different assessors. He served as assessor from 1892 to 1902.

Mr. Bramlet owned the eighty acres where he now lives, for fifteen years before he settled on it, in 1902; the man he employed on the ranch planted twenty-five acres of the land to vines, and now Mr. Bramlet has thirty acres planted to Muscats and thirty-two acres planted to Thompson's seedless:

part of the remainder of the land is in alfalfa and the rest of it is unimproved. The Consolidated Ditch supplies water for irrigating the ranch. For many years Mr. Bramlet has been greatly interested in building irrigation ditches, and was a close friend of Dick McCall, one of the pioneer irrigation men of the section.

In 1876 Mr. Bramlet was married to Miss Euphemia Ellen Wren, a native of Adams County, Ill., and daughter of John and Elizabeth (Martin) Wren. Mrs. Bramlet was but seven years old, in 1863, when her parents came with their children to California. They braved the hardships of the long journey across the plains with horses and wagons and settled in Amador County, Cal., where after a short sojourn they came to Solano County, where the father engaged in farming. Mrs. Bramlet attended the public schools and completed her education at the Stockton high school and the State Normal School at San Jose, Cal. She taught school for six years altogether, in Amador, Santa Cruz, Merced and Fresno counties—principally in the latter two places.

Mr. and Mrs. Bramlet have two children living. Eva is the wife of C. M. Mannon, an attorney at Ukiah, and they are the parents of five children: James Bramlet; Elizabeth; Martha; Mary Ellen; and Charlotte; Dora is the wife of John Stuart Ross, an attorney at El Centro, and they have four children: Isabel S., Neil B., Jean Ellen and John Gordon.

Mrs. Bramlet is an unusually well informed woman, prominent in club life and is ex-chairman of the History and Landmarks Department of the San Joaquin Valley District of the California Woman's Federation of Clubs. For many years she was a society leader in elite circles of Fresno officialdom, and their modest but cozy home radiates the exquisite taste and wholesome hospitality of its accomplished hostess.

Mr. Bramlet is much interested in the cooperative associations for the fruit growers and is a stockholder and member of the California Associated Raisin Company. In politics he votes with the Democratic party on national issues.

CHARLES W. BARRETT.—A self-made pioneer business man of Fresno, who enjoys the distinction of being the oldest hardware merchant continuously in business in the city, is Charles W. Barrett, one of the most respected residents of the city, both for his own worth and because of his association, as a descendant in direct lineage, with one of the most historic and interesting families of pre-Revolutionary days. He was born in New York City on May 11, 1859, a great-grandson of Colonel James Barrett, who commanded a part of the minute-men in the famous battle at Concord sung by Emerson in his "Concord Hymn:"

Here once the embattled farmers stood
And fired the shot heard round the world.

The Barretts came from England, and settled in the Massachusetts Bay Colony many years before the Revolution, and thus it happened that just the man needed for the supreme trial of the century—the first throwing down of the gauntlet to proud and imperious England—was ready and waiting with his farmer-militia on April 19, 1775.

The old Colonial Barrett house is still standing at Concord, one of the most prominent there, although too far from the center of the town to be seen by the average tourist, and our subject studied and photographed it while on a visit to Concord with his wife in 1907,—one of three trips, by the way, they have made "down East" when they kodaked Bunker Hill monument, historic Boston, Maine, Canada, Washington, Detroit, New Orleans, Chicago, St. Paul and other places. The Barrett house is situated off Monument Street, about a mile beyond the battle ground. There a quantity of ammunition was stored that was saved from destruction at the hands of the British through the keenness and bravery of Colonel Barrett's wife. The story is still

told of the search made in that house by the British soldiers, and how they were provided with refreshment by Mrs. Barrett; and how she refused the payment proffered, saying, "We are commanded to feed our enemies," and how eventually she kept reluctantly the money they threw into her lap, saying: "This is the price of blood."

Colonel Barrett led a company to the historic bridge, and his undeniable bravery when the fate of the long-suffering colonists hung in the balance has been commemorated for all time by an inscription on the boulder at Battle Lawn, close to the site of the old Concord bridge, where America's first blood was spilled in the cause of liberty. This inscription reads, in part:

"From this hill Col. James Barrett commanding the Americans gave the order to march to the bridge, but not to fire unless fired upon by the British. Captain Nathan Barrett led his company to defend the bridge, pursued the British to Charlestown, and, though wounded, captured Major Pitcairn's horse, saddle and pistols, and returned home with his trophies."

F. A. Barrett, the father of Charles, was a native of Maine and removed to New York City where he was a builder. In 1861 he came to California by way of Panama, and soon made a name for himself as a contractor and builder in San Francisco and the neighboring bay districts. And there he died, having enjoyed the confidence of his fellow-men and the good will of everybody, in 1899, in his seventy-first year. His wife was Agnes Berry before her marriage, and she was a native of Camden, Maine. Hers was also an old English family, and she survived her husband and died at Fresno in her seventy-ninth year. Two daughters were, with Charles Barrett, their only children, and they are Mrs. Mary F. Lane of Los Angeles and Mrs. Susie A. Miller, of the same city.

Charles Barrett came to California with his parents in 1861, and after attending school for six months at Antioch, in Contra Costa County, he continued his studies in San Francisco, where he was reared. He went to the ordinary public schools and put in two years at the boys' high school; but when fourteen he left his school-books to take charge of the account-books of the California Silk Factory at South San Francisco. After holding that position for a year he decided to learn plumbing, when he was duly apprenticed to J. & E. Snook, the pioneer plumbing firm of San Francisco, with whom he remained until 1882.

In that year he came to Fresno—just a week after the first "big fire"—engaged in the beginning to work for A. Goldstein, but soon shifting to the service of the Donahoo-Fanning Company, with which he continued until 1885. Then, effecting a partnership with the late J. D. Hicks, he established a plumbing business on J Street, the site of the present Mason Block, and when they added hardware, they moved to 1036 I Street; and after moving back to J Street, Messrs. Barrett & Hicks, who were incorporated in 1895, with Mr. Barrett as president, made one more move, this time to the new Voorman Block. There their establishment has become the most extensive hardware store in the City of Fresno, selling at both wholesale and retail and filling a store 50x150 feet at 1035-41 I Street, and a shop 35x150 feet in the rear, while the company also maintains ample warehouses at the Southern Pacific Railroad. This business has proven one of the chief enterprises of Fresno, and has added no little to her prestige as a commercial center. Mr. Barrett, who is a Republican, is a charter member of the Chamber of Commerce of Fresno and an honorary member of the State Retail Hardware Association.

On February 18, 1885, Mr. Barrett was married at San Francisco to Miss Minnie Thomas of Philadelphia, the daughter of Christian Thomas, a native of Germany and a wholesale butcher there, who married Catherine Regina Smith, also a native of Germany. Mr. Thomas came to America, crossed the continent bringing his family, including the daughter Minnie, with him,



Mr. & Mrs. J. G. Hiescher

and died at San Francisco aged seventy-six. After that Mrs. Thomas came to live with the Barretts, and at their home she passed peacefully away in her eighty-fourth year. Two of her sons died in San Francisco, leaving wives and children; and a daughter is Mrs. Emma Evans, the widow of the late George E. Evans of Fresno. At the corner of Tulare and O Streets Mr. Barrett built a fine residence; and when he sold that lot, five years ago, he moved the house to its present location, 1127 S Street, where he dispenses a typically Californian hospitality, assisted so well by his good wife.

Mr. Barrett was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., of which he is a past master; he also belongs to Fresno Chapter No. 69, R. A. M.; Fresno Commandery, No. 29, K. T.; and he is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

JOHN G. HIELSCHER.—Probably no county in all California may boast of a larger number of prosperous citizens of foreign birth who, seeking asylum in the New World, have found in Fresno and environs the greatest freedom for the development of their various talents and capabilities; and among these who have not only carved out their own fortune by their independent efforts, but have contributed much to the progress of California and the upbuilding of her splendid institutions, must be mentioned John G. Hielscher, who was born in Schlesien, Germany, on March 4, 1854. His father was John G. Hielscher, who married Johanna Helena Hauffe. They were farmers, and both died there. They had four sons, two of whom are now living. Carl W. is at the old home, and the subject of our interesting review is the only one in America.

Mr. Hielscher was reared a farmer at the same time that he received a good education in the public schools. In 1875 he entered the German army and served there for two years, when he was honorably discharged. He then worked in the shipyard at Hamburg, and while in that great seaport with its many connections with the outside world, obtained and read books on the United States. This opened to him the enticing vista of its great resources and possibilities, and, together with the history of the United States, showed him the road of opportunity that awaited young men with energy and brawn. He liked the freedom of the new country, made up his mind some day to enjoy it, and steadily saved his money to enable him to realize the goal.

In 1882, Mr. Hielscher purchased a ticket for St. Louis and arrived there in April, 1882, having only five dollars in his pocket. The next morning he went to work on a ranch at fifteen dollars a month, but he did his work so well that at the end of the four weeks, he received twenty dollars. He then made his way to Fremont, Dodge County, Nebr., where he worked for a year, after which he leased a ranch and farmed until 1886. In that year he removed to Iliff, Logan County, Colo., where he located a homestead of 160 acres and also a timber claim of equal size, and began to pioneer and farm.

On June 23, 1889, Mr. Hielscher was married to Miss Carolina Erdelt, at Sterling, Colo. She was also a native of Schlesien, Germany, and the daughter of Edward and Wilhelmina (Scharf) Erdelt, the former a farmer and business man, both of whom are now dead. Having a sister, Mrs. Mathilda Brieger, at Jackson, Mich., and a sister, Mrs. Wilhelmina Weeler, in Chicago, she made her way to the United States, first to Michigan, in 1884, and in 1887 came to Colorado and soon after located a timber claim of 160 acres adjoining that of Mr. Hielscher. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hielscher continued to improve their place, and in time they had 480 acres devoted to stock-raising. They began with only two cows, but from year to year were so successful that when they sold out in 1899 they disposed of fifty head of cattle. At the same time he sold his 480 acres for \$3,000. While in Colorado, about 1897 or 1898, he was made a full-fledged American citizen, and this he counted among his greatest assets.

On account of his wife's health, Mr. Hielscher led the way to California in 1899 and located in Fresno, where the change of climate immediately improved her and for the first time in years she felt, as so many coming to the Golden State have experienced, that life was really worth living. The same fall he bought eighty acres, a part of his present ranch in Parent Colony No. 2, and located on it. The place was much neglected; but by hard work and diligence he improved it, releveling the land and setting out vineyards and orchards, and planting alfalfa, at all of which he has been very successful. Later, Mr. Hielscher bought eighty acres more. It was hog-wallow and there was no water-right on the place; but he levelled the land, sunk wells and installed a pumping plant, and set out a vineyard and orchard. Now the place is in a high state of cultivation. Recently, he sold 100 acres of his property to four different parties, retaining sixty acres for himself.

The estate is really a splendid place, and reflects great credit upon both Mr. and Mrs. Hielscher, who gave to it their most intelligent direction. There are muscat and Thompson seedless vines in profusion, two pumping plants and a large cement swimming pool, the latter being much enjoyed by the children of the locality. The place is most advantageously located on First Street, six miles north of Fresno, and there Mr. Hielscher has erected a large new modern residence of concrete blocks, forming a comfortable and thoroughly up-to-date home, equipped with electric light by Fairbank system.

Mr. Hielscher also owns valuable real estate in Fresno and in Oakland, and is a member of the California Prune and Apricot Association, as well as of the California Associated Raisin Company. Fresno County may well be congratulated on such prosperous, contented and loyal citizens as Mr. and Mrs. Hielscher, representing some of the best of American manhood and womanhood.

TUCK BROTHERS.—Among the enterprising and successful young men of the county, whose prosperity is undoubtedly due to their hard, conscientious work, together with their economy and thrift, and their determination to win out at any honorable cost, are the members of the well-known firm of Tuck Brothers—Lorenzo Cornelius and Ira Thomas Tuck. Both were born in Granville County, N. C., Lorenzo on March 10, 1875, and Ira on February 16, 1880, the sons of William Alfred Tuck, who came from Halifax County, Va. Their grandfather, Richard Tuck, was a farmer, and the father was in a North Carolina regiment in the Civil War. After the great struggle he was married to Fannie Sanford, who also was a native of Granville County, and there they located on a farm, Mr. Tuck becoming a planter and raising tobacco, grain and stock. Now, in his latter years, he is retired and living in Granville County. His wife having died in 1887 at the age of forty-two, he married a second time, choosing Ella Allen as his wife. She was a North Carolinian, and died while on a visit to her brothers in California. By the first union, there were five children: Martha Eva, Mrs. Jones, deceased; William Robert, of Tranquillity; Lorenzo C.; Mamie E., Mrs. Jones of North Carolina; and Ira T. By the second marriage there also were five children: Elza, Mrs. West, and Gladys, Mrs. Dixon, both of North Carolina; Marion, also of that state; Roy, and Raleigh, of California.

Brought up on their father's farm, the boys attended both the public and private schools of the neighborhood, and in the summer-time applied themselves to farm work. After a while they spent the winters in the copper mines, working as stationary engineers. In 1900 Lorenzo came West, the first of the family to push out to California, and settled near Laton in Fresno County, where he was employed on a ranch. He began to help level land for the ditch on the Laguna Grant, when the company commenced to improve the tract, and soon made himself a valuable laborer; and in 1901 he easily found employment at lumbering at Pine Ridge, working also as a blacksmith and mechanic.

In the spring of that year, Ira joined his brother and also worked at Pine Ridge, and there he ran a stationary engine. When the autumn set in, the brothers bought twenty acres of the Laguna Grant, and the following fall purchased twenty acres more, all of which they planted to alfalfa. Then they sold twenty acres, and bought ten adjoining the first twenty. They continued to plant to alfalfa, and prospered in the undertaking.

In 1910 the two brothers came to Tranquillity and bought 180 acres of raw land, which they at once improved. They leveled and checked it and put thirty acres into alfalfa, and raised grain. In 1912 they sold the thirty acres near Laton, and three years later they bought a Case engine of 20x40 horse power. This they use in plowing and putting in crops, and they also run a stationary thresher and header. They lease land, besides, and sow from four to five hundred acres to grain.

Lorenzo Tuck was married in Laton to Miss Mary Eller, a native of Missouri and the daughter of William Eller, a farmer near Laton. They have two promising children—Rosamond and Leon.

Independent in politics, the Messrs. Tuck both vote for the best men and the best principles. They are especially interested in everything that makes for local reform, improvement and expansion; for they have the greatest faith in Fresno County, and therefore, in the future of Tranquillity.

CLAYTON WESLEY TODD.—A progressive horticulturist and viti-culturist whose good wife is also widely known for her experience and personality, is Clayton Wesley Todd, who came to Fresno County in the early nineties. He was born in Indianola, Iowa, on October 24, 1871, the son of William Franklin Todd, who was born in Nashville, Tenn. He removed to Scott, Ill., and was married to Emma Bryan, after which, in 1886, he went to Iowa, and farmed near Indianola. He improved some Government land and made his home there until he died. His wife also died there, the mother of eight children, two of whom are living. Charles is the second youngest of the family, and the only one in California.

He was brought up on a farm in Iowa until he was eighteen years of age, and attended both the public schools and Simpson's College. After another year on the farm, he came west to California in 1891 and located in Fresno County where he followed grain farming and worked a large grain ranch, for five years, for J. E. Dickenson. He owned a ranch at the Scandinavian Colony and for eight years engaged in the raising of peaches and raisins. He was also foreman of the Balfour Guthrie ranch at Sanger and at Strathmore and he did the first surveying and leveling for them, and set out the first orange grove at Strathmore. Then he went back to the Sanger ranch and continued with them for fourteen years.

While there he bought eighty acres of land at Strathmore and eighteen months later he sold the same at a good profit. After that, he bought land west of Strathmore and also sold that at a good profit. In 1916 he bought his present place, twenty acres on Clinton and Chittenden Avenues, which he devoted to Muscat vines. In November, 1918, he resigned from his position with Balfour Guthrie in order to give all his attention to his own business for besides his ranching, he is engaged in contracting, painting and white-washing, using a Bean power spraying machine to apply cement and cold water paint.

On March 25, 1894, Mr. Todd was married at Fresno to Miss Mary Edna Yount, who was born in Des Moines, Iowa, the daughter of D. W. Yount, a farmer residing four miles out of Des Moines. He came from Indiana in 1852, when ten years old, with his parents to Iowa. He died at Norwalk, Iowa. Mrs. Yount was Miss Sarah A. Egbert before her marriage, and she was born in Ohio. She died in Iowa, the mother of three children. A brother, Frank Yount, was an early settler of Fresno and noted as a business man. Mrs. Todd came here in 1892. She is the mother of five children. James L., who enlisted in the National Guard and served on the border in

Mexico until he was honorably discharged. Again enlisting for the World War in the same company a few days before war was declared and becoming a sergeant in 159th Infantry of the Fortieth Division of the United States Army, and served overseas. After the armistice was signed, he returned to San Francisco where he was discharged April 30, 1919, with the rank of sergeant. He is now in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad in Fresno. Isabelle is Mrs. Swenson, of Clovis; Mary Alice, now Mrs. Merle Marple of Dinuba, and Laurence M., who is at home, are twins; and Josephine, also at home, attends the high school. Mrs. Todd is a member of the Chirstian Science Church.

Mr. Todd served for some time on the Board of Trustees of the Sanger Union High School, and he is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and a member and stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company. He is now a trustee of the Greenville school district. He also belongs to Camp '60 of the Woodmen of the World of Fresno.

HAROLD CLYDE WILLIAMS.—Among the men of resourcefulness and executive force who have achieved success in business circles of Coalinga, none is forging to the front more rapidly than H. C. Williams, the well-known proprietor of Coalinga's popular confectionery store, billiard parlor and wholesale and retail tobacconist. He is a native of Canada, born in Mitchell, Ontario, December 11, 1884, a son of John E. and Elizabeth (Tilley) Williams, both of whom are natives of Ontario, and whose parents were from Devonshire, England. Grandfather Williams was a Methodist minister. John E., the father of H. C. Williams, is a harnessmaker and saddler, residing at Mitchell, Canada.

H. C. Williams was the youngest child of a family of four, and after completing his education in the public school, being then sixteen years of age, he left Canada for the United States locating at Newfield, N. Y., where he secured employment with the Lehigh Valley Railway Company, learned telegraphy, and in due time became station agent. June 1, 1901, he was appointed agent and telegraph operator at Wyckoff, where he remained until November, 1901, when he was made a relief agent. Desiring to see more of the world, and especially of the great West, H. C. Williams arrived in Los Angeles, Cal., in January, 1902, he secured work with the Southern Pacific as ticket agent at Long Beach, and filled the position of relief agent at Anaheim and other places in Southern California. Later on he filled the same position on the San Joaquin Division of the same railway company. In 1905 he arrived in Coalinga as agent for the Southern Pacific Railway, and later filled a similar position at Lillis, where he remained until October 3, 1906, when he resigned to engage in business in Coalinga. At first he opened a cigar store on Front Street, in six months' time the business proved such a success that he moved to larger and better quarters on Fifth Street, and here he added confectionery and when the Amy Building was completed he leased his present room. Here he fitted up a billiard parlor, and in the confectionery department he installed a fine modern soda fountain, the largest of its kind in Coalinga. Mr. Williams is exceedingly careful about the moral atmosphere of his parlor, allows no profane language about the place and by his strict observance of this rule his establishment has gained the enviable reputation of a clean, moral amusement center. Lately he has added a cafe which is conducted in the same first-class and conservative way. Mr. Williams is a progressive and wide-awake business man, always on the alert for a new opening for business. He owns the billboards in Coalinga and for ten years has employed a man to post the bills in the city; at one time he was the manager of the opera house there, also the agent for the Hanford Steam Laundry. In addition to these enterprises he has been interested in different local companies and was one of the organizers of the Coalinga-Merced Acres Syndicate, and served as its secretary. This company owns 4,000 acres of land in Merced County for subdivision and farming purposes.



Rasmus Mathiesen
Mari Mathisen

His associates in the company are mostly Coalinga men. Mr. Williams is a very public-spirited man, always greatly interested in every worthy movement that has as its aim the upbuilding of the best interests of the San Joaquin Valley, and in civic matters he has served the city of Coalinga as one of its trustees.

Mr. H. C. Williams was united in marriage with Miss Julia Blanche Levy, the ceremony being solemnized at Laton. Mrs. Williams is a native of California and a daughter of M. Levy. Fraternally, Mr. Williams is a member of the Eagles at Coalinga, and is a past officer of the lodge, also past state trustee and member of the State Finance Committee for the Eagles. He is past sachem for the Red Men, a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America and in politics is a Republican.

RASMUS MATHIESEN.—Among the most progressive ranchers residing north of Sanger in the Fairview district, Fresno County, are Mr. and Mrs. Rasmus Mathiesen, who are making a specialty of orchard and vine. Mr. Mathiesen was born at Aabenraa, Slesvig, Denmark, July 6, 1862, a son of Christian and Christina Mathiesen who followed husbandry in that country.

Rasmus received a good education in the public schools of his native place and from a lad made himself useful on the home farm, so he early learned thrift and self-reliance. When seventeen years of age, wishing to escape Prussian military oppression, he made his way to Denmark and at Fredericia he found employment on a farm. He had two half-brothers who emigrated to the United States in 1872, one of them, John Hopper, coming to Alameda County, Cal., that same year. His brother, Christ, also came to California in 1884. So Mr. Mathiesen also felt the call of the West and responded, coming to California in 1885, arriving in San Francisco on April 19, 1885. His brother Peter came in 1886 and George in 1887. Of the brothers four are still living, namely, John Hopper, Peter, George and himself. Mr. Mathiesen remained in Alameda until 1887 when he came to Fresno County, and immediately began working at farming, and in orchards and vineyards, in different parts of the county. He also worked on the flume, running logs, an occupation he followed for five years.

Possessing thrift and enterprise, and with a natural desire to own a place of his own, Mr. Mathiesen saved a part of his earnings so that by 1894 he purchased his present ranch on which he located and began improvements. It was a stubble-field but, wishing to engage in intensive farming, Mr. Mathiesen proceeded to improve it and by persistent, intelligent effort he has developed a highly improved ranch of eighty acres, four one-half miles north of Sanger, being irrigated from the Gould ditch. It is devoted to vineyard and orchard, except fifteen acres in alfalfa and grain. His vineyards are exceptionally fine and produce on an average of one and one-half tons of raisins to the acre a year. He also raises a fine quality of peaches.

In Fresno, September 6, 1892, Rasmus Mathiesen was united in marriage with Karen Marie Johansen, a native of Fyen, Denmark, a daughter of Mads and Nielsinia (Nielsen) Johansen. She came to California in 1888 and of their union two children were born: Christina, who is now the wife of A. C. Jensen of Sanger and who has twin daughters—Irene and Lorene; and Christian, who was born December 26, 1897, and is assisting in operating the home ranch. They are also rearing and educating Ella Hansen, as one of their own children, and she in turn loves and is devoted to them.

Fraternally Mr. Mathiesen is a member of Orangedale Lodge, No. 211, I. O. O. F., at Centerville, of which he is a Past Grand, while with his wife he is a member of King's River Rebekah Lodge, No. 51, at Centerville. Mrs. Mathiesen, being a charter member, has been active in the lodge, serving as Noble Grand two different times, as well as delegate to the Grand Lodge. They are both conscientious Lutherans, their membership being in the Danish Lutheran Church in Central Colony. Mr. Mathiesen has been a supporter of all cooperative movements for fruit-growers and is a member and stock-

holder of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. A firm believer in protection for America and Americans, he is a Republican in national politics. Always a friend of education and desiring the best schools, he has served as a member and clerk of the Fairview school district for twelve years. Hospitable and generous, Mr. and Mrs. Mathiesen are ever ready to help others and to aid in all movements for the advancement of the county and bettering of conditions for its citizens.

MARION H. TAYLOR.—The enterprising dairyman of Tranquillity, Fresno County, M. H. Taylor, is a native of the Lone Star State, having been born in Van Zant County, Texas, June 17, 1872, a son of Frank and Lizzie (Cantrell) Taylor, natives of Arkansas and Tennessee, respectively. His father, Frank Taylor, was a farmer in Van Zant County and in Coleman County, Texas, and he died in the latter county in 1877; his mother was a resident of Novice, Texas, for over forty years, and died there February 19, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Taylor were the parents of six children.

M. H. Taylor, the fourth child and the only member of the family living in California, was reared on a farm in Coleman County, Texas, where he attended the public school of his district, but owing to existing conditions in the family, his father having died when M. H. was about five years of age, his educational advantages were very limited, as he was obliged to go to work at an early age to help support the family. The Taylor family were early settlers in Coleman County, their home being out on the frontier and Mr. Taylor recalls the fact that there was no wire fence in the county and that it was no uncommon sight to see deer, antelope and Indians roaming over the plains. Mr. Taylor remained at home helping his mother with the farming and raising of cattle and hogs, until he had reached his twenty-seventh year, when he went to Devil's River, Edwards County, where he worked on a cattle ranch and rode the range. He remained there until 1905 when he returned to Coleman County, where he rented a farm. In 1909 he removed to Mitchell, where two years previous he had purchased a ranch of 160 acres, this he improved and while living there engaged in farming and raising cattle and hogs until 1917, when, owing to a drought in that section of the state, he sold his ranch and decided to migrate to the Golden State. Mr. Taylor arrived in Fresno County, Cal., in September, 1917, settling at Tranquillity, where he leased a dairy and forty-seven acres in alfalfa. He has at present twenty-eight cows and by hard work, untiring efforts and good management he has succeeded in building up a prosperous dairy business.

On December 30, 1903, M. H. Taylor was united in marriage with Miss Emma Nichols, a native of Texas, born in Coleman, March 22, 1882, the ceremony being solemnized in Coleman County. This union has been blessed with six children: Doile, Bertha, Mary, Merene, Mansel, and Hubert. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor and their family are highly esteemed in their circle of friends at Tranquillity.

REUBEN JAMES SWIFT.—Almost coincidental with the raising of the American flag for the first time in California was the setting up of the first printing press, and ever since, with the march of civilization here has been the development of the newspaper as a most potent factor in furthering every conceivable kind of progress.

That it is very logical that the newspaper man and his wonderful mechanical aids should have a part from the very beginning in the growth and proper development of a town will be seen when one stops to think of all the service that a newspaper renders, and often with little or no direct compensation, to a community. The journalist is among those who do some of the advance thinking, and frequently advance acting for others, and so act as heralds, going before and making open and smooth the pathways; and when that is not the case, the man who runs a newspaper is among the very first to whom appeal is made, when others think of something worth while, to proclaim it broadcast, endorse the idea, and so give the project a good "boost."

And when all has been accomplished, and one after another of the good burghers rub their hands together and gleefully exclaim: "Ah, isn't that fine! See what I have succeeded in bringing about!" it is the poor editor who is expected to jot down all the happenings, write eulogies about all those who claim to have been the inspired cause thereof, praise everybody and everything to the skies, and give the pioneer and the citizen a "character" no one ever know him to have before.

Among the interior California journalists who have thus contributed much to the progress of their section of the State, is Reuben James Swift, a native of South Dakota, where he was born at Watertown, Codington County. Growing up, he moved to Wisconsin, and then to North Dakota; and at Leeds, worked for sixteen years at the printing trade. After that, he was for five years at Spokane, Wash.

In July, 1909, California was fortunate in attracting Mr. Swift, who chose Kerman as the most promising of all fields, and he took over the plant of the Kerman News Company, of which he at once became president and manager. He also assumed the responsibilities of editor, and took charge of the "Kerman News." This paper had been established in November, 1908, and incorporated as The Kerman News Co. It was not long before he raised it to that standard as an indispensable adjunct of the life of the town, that it had over 500 subscribers. Week after week Mr. Swift and his staff have put out one of the best news-organs and agencies for social and moral uplift in this part of the county.

At Fresno, on February 4, 1911, Mr. Swift and Florence Remington, a native of Missouri, were joined in matrimony; their union being blessed with one child, Dorothy. Mr. and Mrs. Swift attend the Kerman Methodist Episcopal Church, and are active in local society generally.

Mr. Swift served for two years, as secretary of the Commercial Association, and also as secretary of the Civic Center. In those departments of Kerman life, Mr. Swift has been able to devote his unusual talents and experience, and so effect much desired expansion, reform and progress.

J. HENRY SCHEIDT.—Among Fresno's citizens of foreign birth who came to this country to seek their fortune in a new land, J. Henry Scheidt is numbered. He was born in the Province of Samara, Volga District, Russia, June 21, 1874, and received his education in his native land, where he also clerked in a mercantile store. In 1893, at the age of nineteen, he came to the United States without financial means but endowed with the far more valuable assets of energy and thrift.

It has been truthfully said that the successful man not only conquers obstacles, but makes use of them. Certain it is that J. Henry Scheidt has overcome the difficulties that lay in his path and has made good as a successful rancher and an exceptional business man. He is self made in the fullest sense of the word. He first located in Cincinnati, Ohio, where he worked in the store of the P. R. Mitchell Company until 1896, when he came to Fresno, Cal., with the small sum of \$300 in his pocket. For the next three years he worked for wages, saving his money, and in 1899 with the earnings he had saved purchased his first ranch of forty acres in the Perrin Colony No. 1. He also rented land and engaged in grape growing. Later he sold his property but continued to buy, improve and sell ranches, meeting with much success in his undertakings. He also bought and sold second crops of Muscat grapes to wineries, etc.

Later he bought a forty-acre ranch on California Avenue which he improved and sold. In 1905 he returned to Russia, where he remained until 1907. Upon his return to California he bought a 200-acre ranch in Madera County with George Virgin. The ranch was improved and sold, and later Mr. Scheidt owned a ranch on Jensen Avenue which he also sold. In 1908 he bought out a small grocery store at C and Santa Clara Avenues, the stock of which was valued at \$600, the size of the building being only twenty by

ciated Raisin Company. He is a stockholder in the two latter, as well as in the Danish Creamery.

When Mr. Forbes began setting out his fig orchard the growing of figs for commercial purposes was still an experiment here. But he was optimistic, having faith in its future possibilities, and persevered in spite of being discouraged in his undertaking by friends and neighbors. Thus he is a pioneer grower of the Calimyrna fig here, and has now the pleasure of seeing it the greatest success commercially of orchard or vine. He can justly look with pride upon his achievement, and has the satisfaction of knowing that others are now eagerly following his example.

KINZA P. WITTEN.—To the early adoption of up-to-date methods and machinery is doubtless due a large measure of the success in wheat and grain-farming attained by Kinza P. Witten, who, ably assisted by his loyal wife and children, has come to hold a high place in business and social circles. His home ranch lies on the "West Side," about half a mile south and four miles west of Lanare, in the very heart of Fresno County's choice wheat district.

Mr. Witten was born about six miles from Bowling Green, Pike County, Mo., on September 24, 1870; a member of an old Virginia family, after whom Witten's Landing, on the Ohio River near Wheeling, was named. His father was Kinza Dickersen Witten, and he spent his early life steamboating on the Ohio; he married in Virginia, Miss Ann McCullough, also a native of that State, and while there, their first child was born. After coming to Missouri, where their family was increased by the birth of nine more children, Mr. Witten farmed, and there he died, when the lad Kinza P. was only five years old. The widow continued to run the farm and brought up the minor children, and so kept the family together; but she died when Kinza was about twenty, and after she had seen eight of her children grow up.

The youngest in the family, Kinza attended the public schools and grew up on his mother's farm, where he lived until after her death. He was about twenty-one when he first struck Fresno County, following two of his brothers, who had reached California before him. Luther was working on the Kettleman Plains in Fresno County, and "Zac" was busy at Lemoore, although later he became an undertaker at Fresno and Visalia, and died in the latter place in 1906. Besides Luther, who is now living at Visalia, Phillip resides at Crow's Landing, in Stanislaus County, where he is a butcher, thus making three brothers still in the Golden State, while a sister, Mrs. Sue Gillum of Ashley, Mo., is the only other one of the family still living.

Kinza P. Witten began without a dollar, and worked on Fresno County ranches, but when he was married, in 1895, he had rented a fruit ranch of twenty acres near Fresno. His bride was Miss Jessie Sutton, a native of that city and the daughter of John and Etta (Wickwire) Sutton, both of whom came from Canada, but were reared and married in New York. They moved west to California in 1876, and eleven years later came to Fresno County. They had three children—Jessie Edith, now Mrs. Witten, who was born in Contra Costa County, Cal.; John H., who resides in Fresno and is an orchardist and ranch-owner, and Charles F., who died when he was fourteen years old.

After three years of farming in the Coalinga district, Mr. Witten and family moved up to Summit Lake, where they rented for six years and then bought their present ranch. They own 120 acres, purchased about fifteen years ago, and in addition, rents land for wheat and grain farming, and thus works about 1,500 acres in all. He owns and operates a Holt forty-five horsepower caterpillar tractor, which he uses for plowing, seeding and harvesting, and a combined harvester and thresher of a late and up-to-date kind. In 1917, he raised 8,000 sacks of wheat while his 1918 crop was equally satisfactory.

Mr. and Mrs. Witten have been blessed with six children: Earl Henry, who enlisted at Fresno on May 21, 1918, in the Quartermaster's corps, was

trained at Camp Joseph E. Johnston at Jacksonville, Fla., and landed at Brest on July 21, 1918. He served at Bordeaux, Marseilles, at Conflans and near Verdun in the motor transport corps. Returning to America, he landed at Newport News, Va., and came direct to the Presidio, where he was honorably discharged on July 18, 1919, after which he reached home on July 20, 1919. Velma Etta, Kinza D., Beulah H., Warren W., and Lucile Nadine, are the other children.

Mr. and Mrs. Witten are both members of the Rebekahs at Riverdale, while Mr. Witten belongs to the Odd Fellow lodge there and the Woodmen of the World at Lemoore. A consistent Democrat, Mr. Witten stands by the President, as he always did during the War, and supports his program for the League of Nations.

EUGENE F. MAIN.—A native of Iowa, where he was born at Des Moines on October 16, 1866, Eugene F. Main is the son of Theodore Main, a native of Albion, N. Y., who removed to Michigan, where he embarked in lumbering; then went to Wisconsin for the same purpose; and later settled at Des Moines, where he followed his trade, which was that of a brick mason and a builder. After some years he removed to Richmond, Mo., where he was a contractor and made bricks. In 1902 he took up his residence in California, and at present resides in East Bakersfield. Mrs. Main, who was Sarah Rice before her marriage, and was also a New Yorker, is still living. In 1908 the esteemed and happy couple celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding, and in 1918 celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary.

Eleven children blessed this union, and five are still living. Eugene; William Main is a contractor in Fresno; and the three daughters—Mrs. Patterson of Fresno, and Mrs. Nielsen and Mrs. Renshaw of Bakersfield.

The third oldest in the family, Eugene was brought up on a farm in Missouri for the first year, when he was taken to Richmond, where he attended the grammar and high schools. When about fifteen he began to learn the trades of brick-layer and plasterer under the direction of his father; but before he was twenty-one his father withdrew, and from that time on he was in business for himself.

In 1887 he came to California for the first time and for a while worked at his trade at Fresno. The next year he came back again and was foreman for Joseph Spinney. For eight winters he came back each year and continued in the capacity of foreman, helping to build the City Hall, the Temple Bar Block, and the Fulton Hotel, each time going back for the summer to Richmond, Mo.

In that town, on November 17, 1891, Mr. Main was married to Viola Adams, who was born in Macon, Mo., the daughter of John and Lucy (Harvard) Adams, substantial farmer folks of that state. Mr. Adams lived for a while at Richmond, and in 1903 came to Fresno, where he died. Mrs. Adams is still living, the mother of six boys and two girls, among whom Mrs. Main is the third oldest. She was educated in Missouri.

Having made an enviable record as a contractor in Missouri, Mr. Main in April, 1901, located permanently in Fresno, and first bought ten acres on Roeding Avenue, to which he added, until he now owns twenty acres, having in the meantime bought and sold several tracts. He built a ten-room residence of brick, designing it himself; and laid out a fine orchard. There he has Muir, Lovell and Elberta peaches.

Mr. Main is active in contracting and building, and also was a brick manufacturer. As a stockholder and foreman, he started the Fresno Brick and Tile Works; he built up the plant and in ten months sold out and went back to contracting. He did the brick work on both the Republican Building and the Brewer residence, and also the old Fresno Bank and the Y. M. C. A. Building. He constructed the Rehorn residence, and put up the almshouse, also built many buildings in Visalia, Coalinga, Selma and other towns, including the Kutner Warehouse, the White Brick fruit store and many country

packing houses and warehouses. He belongs to the California Peach Growers, Inc., being a member and a stockholder; and is also a charter member of Fresno No. 1 International Union of Bricklayers.

Eight children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Main: Alma is a graduate of the Fresno high school, and so is Fred; the latter is also a graduate of Heald's Business College, and was deputy county clerk. He later served in a Machine Gun corps until mustered out, is now in the Supervisors' office in Fresno; Eva, who graduated from the Fresno high school, is Mrs. Sears and resides at Fresno. Eula is a graduate of the Fresno State Normal and is teaching school. Jeanette, a graduate of the Fresno high now with Rodin and Kamp, and Charles, and Nellie are in attendance at the high school, and William, the youngest, is just starting school.

For many years Mr. Main has been a member of the Odd Fellows; and he also belongs to the Woodmen of the World. In national politics he is a Democrat.

ROBERSON J. KING.—The efficient superintendent of the S. W. & B. Oil Co., for the past thirteen years, Roberson J. King, is a native of Bedford County, Tenn., where he was born in 1846, a son of Charles Brandon and Mary (McQuiddy) King. His great-grandfather, John B. King, was a native of Georgia but removed to North Carolina and it was in this state that Grandfather Brandon King was born. Roberson J. King's maternal grandfather, John McQuiddy, a native of Massachusetts, migrated from the Bay State to Kentucky and afterwards located in Tennessee. The lineage of the McQuiddy family in the United States is traced back to a Scotchman who married a French woman and emigrated to America locating in Massachusetts. Charles and Mary King were the parents of nine children, Roberson J., being the second oldest. He was brought up on a farm in Tennessee and followed farming in his native state until 1880, when he migrated to California locating at Hanford, where he purchased 160 acres and engaged in farming and stock-raising. Later on he sold his ranch and located on a homestead east of Traver, Tulare County, where he engaged in farming. While living there he was deputy county assessor and served for six years as assessor of Alta Irrigation district, holding the office from its creation.

After selling this ranch, Mr. King located in Hanford, where he was engaged for four years in buying and shipping hogs, cattle and sheep.

In 1900, R. J. King came to Coalinga where he was one of the organizers of the Whale Oil Company, who leased land in the Jacolitos Canyon and sunk a well, the venture proving a failure. At the same time Mr. King was interested in sinking a well in the Cholame section, of San Luis Obispo County, which was also a failure. Mr. King believes in the old adage, "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." Undaunted by repeated failures he became associated with the El Capitan Oil Company, and in 1901 they leased sections 15-19-31, and sunk two wells which proved successful producers, and two years later the company sold out their interests.

Subsequently Mr. King engaged in the fruit packing business, for one year, being located at Hanford. Afterwards he returned to Coalinga where he became the superintendent of the Esperanza Oil Company on section six. Later on he made a trip to the Utah oil fields, where he prospected for one year and then went on further east, to his native state, Tennessee, after remaining one year he returned to California. In 1905, R. J. King became the superintendent of the S. W. & B. Oil Co. At that time they had but two producing wells, but, through the efficient management and wise foresight of Mr. King, since that time four more wells have been sunk and at present the company is pumping five wells. In addition to his oil operations Mr. King is interested in farming near Tulare Lake in Kings County, where he has leased 640 acres which he has devoted to raising barley and wheat. Roberson J. King was united in marriage with Miss Mary Bramblett, a native of Tennessee. She passed away in 1896 leaving six motherless children who

were raised by their loving father. The children in order of birth were: A. D., now a banker residing in Piedmont; E. B., is in the lumber business and resides in Berkeley; Everett W. and Elmore W. are twins, also in the lumber business and reside in Bakersfield; Leslie B. was in the United States Army, served overseas and now resides in Bakersfield; Clementine, as present is living in Berkeley.

Fraternally, Mr. King is a Mason, having joined this organization in Tennessee, but is now a member of Hanford Lodge, F. & A. M. He is a public spirited man and has always been interested in those movements and measures that have as their aim the upbuilding of the best interests of the community wherever he resides and is especially interested in educational matters having served as trustee of the Alpha School district, Fresno County, and while living in Tulare County served in the same capacity in his home school district.

A. LORENZO BABCOCK.—There are but few men who have been able to crowd so much activity of various kinds into so short a time as has A. Lorenzo Babcock. He seems to have been endowed with a capacity for big things, and by a life of integrity and close application has accomplished that which would take an ordinary man a lifetime to encompass.

Mr. Babcock is the owner of a thirty-four-acre ranch at Lone Star, which he acquired in February, 1917. This vineyard contains sixteen acres of zinfandels and fourteen acres of sultanas. It has been named the Babcock Vineyard, and acre for acre is one of the biggest yielders in Fresno County. He resides on the celebrated Montecito No. 1 Vineyard, a very attractive country villa, on Manning Avenue, three miles west of Fowler. Aside from being a splendid producer, it provides Mr. Babcock and his family with a magnificent residence and home. He is also the owner of the fruit ranch known as The Kings County Orchard of fifty acres, planted to apricots and prunes. It lies seven miles northeast of Hanford and is one of the best paying orchards in the San Joaquin Valley. Besides this he owns a ninety-acre tract, known as the California Ranch, at Orosi, Tulare County. This property is surrounded by most picturesque scenery, and truly suggests "California" in soil, climate and surroundings.

Mr. Babcock was born in Sabula, Iowa, October 27, 1877, a son of Lorenzo Dow Babcock. This branch of the Babcock family came from New York State, where they were farmers. The father married near Toronto, in the Province of Ontario, Canada, Miss Augusta Bastedo, born in Canada, of very distinguished Scotch and French-Canadian origin. The parents came to Michigan, and then to Minnesota, where they farmed a few years in each state. They then went to Clinton County, Iowa, and here A. Lorenzo Babcock was born. Then the family went to Winnebago City, Minn., where they followed farming for a few years, and when the son was nine years old the family moved to Pottawattamie County, Iowa, and there bought 160 acres, and raised corn, hay, horses, hogs and cattle. The mother is now living in Washington, and is sixty years old; the father died in Pottawattamie County, Iowa, at the age of forty-eight years. There were eight children, of whom A. Lorenzo is the third and the second son.

Lorenzo worked on the Iowa farm, attended high school at Elliott, Iowa, and matriculated at Simpson College, at Indianola, Iowa. He went into a lawyer's office at Guthrie Center, Iowa, for a time, after which he went to Omaha, Nebr., and engaged in work in the office of the Omaha Christian Advocate. He next went into the National Bank of Commerce as an office clerk, and served four years there, becoming receiving teller; then he went to Colorado and became connected with the Colorado Title and Trust Company, at Colorado Springs. He was then twenty-one, and had landed at Colorado Springs with seven and a half dollars in his pocket. Here is where he learned independence.



A. Lorenzo Nabcoast

Six years and six months' experience gave Mr. Babcock a business acquaintance in Denver, in which city he became bookkeeper in the Daniel's Bank, where he remained for six years. Here he became interested in politics, and was in the state auditor's office with John Holmberg for six months. He received the appointment as secretary of the Colorado Commission for the Portland Fair. After serving on this commission he returned to Denver, and became connected with the Colorado Springs & Cripple Creek Railway. Later he went to Silverton and entered the employ of the Guggenheim interests at their Silver Lake mines at Silverton, remaining with them one year, and then went to San Francisco and was connected with the Southern Pacific for one year, and then went to the Orient for the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, being stationed at Hong Kong, China, and here he remained for two and a half years, and arose from assistant in the freight department to manager. Returning to San Francisco for three months, Mr. Babcock then went to Manila as manager of the Pacific Mail Agency, where he remained for two and a half years.

Returning to California, Mr. Babcock became traveling auditor for the San Joaquin Light and Power Company, and took up his home in Fresno. This was in 1913, and that year he married Miss Lillian Irwin, of Tennessee, and this he considered the best act of his life. During the year 1913 he continued with the Light and Power Company, and in 1914 became cashier for the California Associated Raisin Company, serving as such for four years, from August 1, 1914, to September 16, 1918.

WILLIAM MICHAEL GLAVES.—A successful and prominent farmer of Fresno County who enjoyed an equally enviable reputation as an agriculturist in Missouri, is William Michael Glaves, who has one of the finest farm residences in Fresno County outside of Fresno City. He was born near La Grange, Lewis County, Mo., on July 3, 1857, the son of David N. Glaves, who was born near Falmouth, Ky., in 1819. Grandfather Michael Glaves was a major in the War of 1812, and afterwards, while major at a general muster in 1823, was accidentally killed through being thrown from his horse. The Glaves family came from Virginia to Kentucky as pioneers of Scotch-Irish descent; the father was a farmer in Kentucky and married Nancy A. Wallace, also a native of Kentucky. Grandfather Graham Wallace was of Scotch descent and moved from Kentucky to Missouri; the mother was a cousin of General Lew Wallace. The father moved to Lewis County, Mo., in the spring of 1857, and bought a farm there; and he died on August 16, 1888. The mother died at the old home in 1901. She had seven children, and William Michael was the fifth in the order of birth. James H. died at La Belle, Mo., on March 18, 1917; Elizabeth J. resides at La Belle; John N. is in Lewiston, Lewis County, Mo.; Martha, now Mrs. Joseph Carman, is at the same place; as is also Robert G.; and D. G. Glaves is at the old home at Ewing.

Reared on a farm, William attended the public schools and the Christian University of Canton, Mo., and then remained home to engage in farming. He rented land and went in for grain and stock; and he got such a successful start that he was able to buy a farm seven miles south of Lewiston. Later he bought another farm and had cattle and hogs, and he leased still other farm lands. He became a large feeder of cattle and hogs, and shipped to St. Louis and Chicago; he also went in for raising horses and mules. When he started, he and his brother rented sixty acres of land and began to feed hogs; he bought hogs at four cents a pound and made the weight 270; and he sold at six and a half and seven cents a pound, and was successful. The following year they rented seventy acres, and at the end of two years bought 160 acres. They fed two loads of cattle and 130 hogs the first season and after nine years of partnership, they dissolved.

In 1914, Mr. Glaves traded his home place for forty acres at Tranquillity and property in Fresno, Cal., and came to Kerman; and later he traded 160 acres for eighty acres in Empire devoted to alfalfa. He engaged in stock-

raising and set out forty-two and a half acres in Thompson seedless, for which he paid \$14,600. He improved it, and in 1918 sold it at good profit.

Mr. Graves still owns property in Fresno. In 1918 he bought for a home his present place, twenty acres at the corner of Shields and Thompson avenues, and set out much of it to Thompson seedless grapes; and he built his handsome residence in Mission style, and made it one of the finest residences in this section.

At La Belle, Mo., Mr. Graves was married to Miss Annie Rosalie Johnston, a native of Carroll County, Mo., and the daughter of Elisha Johnston, who was born in Ohio. When thirteen he came to Missouri and served in the Union Army during the Civil War; then he came to California, where he was a grain farmer near Monmouth. After fifteen years he returned to Missouri, and lived there about twelve years; then he came to California and to Phoenix, Ariz., and on July 22, 1918, he died at Oakland. He married Mary J. Walker, a native of Ohio, who now resides in Stockton. In all these years he made four different trips to California and spent the winters here. Mrs. Graves was educated in the Monmouth public schools and attended an academy at Eldon. Seven children were born to this favored couple, and of these six are living, Viola Mary having died when she was four months old. The others are: Leona Gladys, who married Wilhelm Hansen on June 1, 1919, and resides in Kerman; Doris Elizabeth, who attends the Kerman high school; Robert Wallace; Vera Irene; William Michael, Jr.; and Mildred Lucile. The family attend the Baptist Church; and in matters of national politics, Mr. Graves is a Socialist. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and is a supporter of all public enterprises that help build up the county. He was a member of the Grange in Missouri, also of the Farmers' Alliance there.

A. N. CRESSMAN.—A prominent man in the Pine Ridge district and a resident of Fresno County since November 20, 1888. A. N. Cressman was born near Tylersport, Pa., June 5, 1868. His father, George Cressman, was born at Souderton, Pa., where he was a farmer and is descended from an old Pennsylvania family. The mother of A. N. Cressman was, in maidenhood, Mary Ann Wesner, also born in Pennsylvania, and A. N. is the second oldest of their nine children and the only member of the family in the west. He was reared in Montgomery County, Pa., receiving a good education in the public schools of that county. When nineteen years of age he came west arriving in Weeping Water, Nebr., in the spring of 1888, remaining until fall when he came to Fresno County. He went to work for Bill Forsyth in the Fresno vineyard at fifty cents per day and three months later he was made foreman of the vineyard, a position he held for about a year when he resigned to work for G. W. Smith in Eggers Colony from the fall of '89 until the spring of 1890, and then came to Ockenden, being employed by Burnham & Eversole, butchers. After two summers with them he went to Porterville and was married there December 24, 1892, to Miss Nellie Hall, who was born in Nebraska, a daughter of Robert and Eleanor (Sweeney) Hall, natives of Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, respectively, who moved to Nebraska and in 1891 to Porterville, Cal. Her father died in Oklahoma and her mother now lives in Selma.

After his marriage Mr. Cressman came back to Ockenden and was employed by Thomas Bacon and ran his butcher business and was later with his successors, Bacon & Simpson until they sold to Tom Ockenden and continued to run his business until 1908. Meantime in 1905 he had purchased his present place of 160 acres, the old Tom Downey place above the Tollhouse. Here he set out an apple orchard and built a residence and store and in 1907 started a store, saloon and hotel. He still runs the mercantile business and hotel and his apple orchard is in full-bearing. These he packs in boxes and hauls to Fresno with his truck. He has as many as 3,000 boxes of winter apples which not only are sold in different cities in Fresno County, but he

ships them, some going east as far as Kentucky and Virginia and west to Honolulu. He has made displays of apples in the Fresno County Fair and has taken his share of the prizes.

The result of the union of A. N. Cressman and Nellie Hall has been ten children: Robert A., with the San Joaquin Light and Power Company; Mary E., Mrs. Chambers, who resides with her husband on the Cressman ranch; Bertha and Linda H., twins, who, both live in Fresno; Lizzie H., Alice H., George, Benj. H., Annie, and Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Cressman have an interesting family to whom they are giving the best educational advantages within their means and they have the regard and well wishes of a host of friends who admire them for their integrity and honesty of purpose. Deeply interested in the cause of education, Mr. Cressman is a trustee of the Pine Ridge School District, having served many years as clerk of the board. He gave one acre of the present site for the school house. He is a member of the Herman Sons and the Eagles. In political preferment he is always a true blue Republican.

CLINTON D. COLLINS, M. D.—Few counties of California have been so fortunate as Fresno in their selection of county physicians, and among those who have filled that office with signal ability is C. D. Collins, the physician and surgeon, who is not only a native son, but was born, on May 24, 1885, in Fresno County. His father was the late J. D. Collins. A sketch of the family is given elsewhere in this history.

One of a family of five brothers and three sisters, Mr. Collins was educated in the public grammar and high schools of his district, and later he attended the medical department of Leland Stanford University, where he graduated in 1911. For the following nine months he was interne at the Alameda County Hospital, greatly enlarging his experience.

On February 24, 1912, Dr. Collins and Miss Gertrude Drew, daughter of A. M. Drew, the well-known attorney, were united in matrimony. Two children—Barbara Drew, and Thomas Arthur—have blessed this union. Dr. Collins is a valued member of the University Club, and the family attend the Methodist Church.

Coming to Fresno, Dr. Collins commenced his practice here with most encouraging success from the start; and having shown much public spirit as a citizen working under the Democratic banner, he was appointed, in January, 1915, County Physician by the Board of Supervisors, still continuing as visiting surgeon to the county hospital. Dr. Collins entered the service of the United States during the war, enlisted and received his commission of First Lieutenant June, 1918, and was discharged January, 1919. Coming back to Fresno and resumed his private practice and his connection with the county. He is a member of the County and State Medical Societies and the American Medical Association.

MARTIN W. PEARCE.—There are few more inspiring examples of self-won success in the history of Fresno County farmers, than that furnished by Martin W. Pearce, who has, by perseverance, hard work, and intelligently directed efforts, succeeded in attaining a large measure of prosperity, and is regarded as one of the most enterprising and up-to-date ranchers in his community. A Canadian by birth, born in Ontario, October 7, 1867, he was reared on a farm and educated in the public school of his district.

In the fall of 1887, when Martin W. Pearce was twenty years old, he came to the United States, and for a few months stopped in Northern California, where he investigated the prospects for farming, but after seeing Fresno County and investigating its wonderful opportunities for farming, fruit culture, and cattle raising, he decided to make his future home in this great commonwealth. After arriving in Fresno in the spring of 1888, he secured employment on the T. C. White ranch, and being an ambitious youth, and desirous of being in business for himself, in 1890 he purchased forty acres

of raw land in the Garfield district near Clovis, being one of the first to set out vines in that district. He improved it with a Muscat vineyard, residence and fences, bringing the ranch up to a high state of cultivation, and raising some very large crops. Having made his residence there for twenty-two years he sold the place in 1912.

During his long residence in Fresno County Mr. Pearce has owned a number of ranches; among the various properties he has owned were forty acres in the Perrin Colony No. 2; two ranches of twenty acres each in the Garfield district; fifty acres in the Niece Colony, and a grain and cattle ranch of four hundred and forty acres also in the Garfield district. Mr. Pearce has been engaged in grain farming, cattle raising and viticulture, in all of which he has made a decided success. By his long and varied experience in agriculture, he has gained a valuable knowledge of the surrounding conditions and crops, and is considered an authority on lands and values in Fresno County. Although a comparatively young man, Mr. Pearce has retired from active farm work, and is living in his new and modern bungalow at No. 1403 San Pablo Avenue, Fresno.

He is a man of splendid business ability, and has been recognized as a leader in financial circles by being elected to the responsible position of a director in the First National Bank of Clovis.

In the Garfield district, March 18, 1900, Mr. Pearce was united in marriage with Johnnie Elizabeth Howard, a native of Fresno County, and this happy union has been blessed by two children, Zella, and Thomas, both attending the Fresno Normal Training School.

Mrs. Pearce is a member of the Parlor Lecture Club of Fresno, and the family are highly esteemed in the community.

HENRY KELLAS.—The late Henry Kellas was a splendid example of a kind-hearted and public-spirited citizen, and was born near Forest, forty miles from Quebec, Canada. His parents were of Scotch ancestry, and owned a farm on the Canada and United States line. When Henry was a lad of thirteen, the family moved to Illinois, and he was raised and educated in that state. When he was old enough he began farming for himself, and working in the pineries. He later farmed in Iowa, and in 1872, settled in Kansas, and bought 280 acres of railroad land, near Newton, Harvey County, upon which he raised grain and some stock until 1905, when, on account of ill health, he sold out and removed to Seattle, Wash. Having recovered from his asthma, four months later, he came to California, and on June 26th, of that year, purchased a ranch of sixty acres, seven miles east of Fresno. There were some young vines planted on the acreage, and seventeen acres were in young fig trees. Mr. Kellas set the balance of the ranch to vines, Thompson seedless, Muscats, Malagas, and all were grown under ditch irrigation; some wells and a pumping plant furnishing further water for the property. Mr. Kellas was actively engaged in the development of his ranch, when he was called by death, on September 26, 1909. He was interested in the cause of education, and in his home district in Kansas, was clerk and trustee, and helped build first school in his district which was named for him, Kellas School. He also built the second or present school house, was elected a trustee and served for nearly thirty-three years. In Locan district, he helped organize a new district and was one of first trustees and helped built first school house. He was always a Republican.

In Newton, Kans., January 12, 1887, Mr. Kellas had been united in marriage with Miss Emma Gast, who was born in Plymouth, Marshall County, Ind., a daughter of Andrew Gast, a native of Germany. Mr. Gast was brought to the United States by his parents when he was two years of age, and for a time the family stopped in New York, but later located in Marshall County, Ind. Mr. Gast, after reaching young manhood, enlisted for service in the Civil War, in Company E, Twelfth Indiana Cavalry. After the war, he returned to farming in Indiana. He married Angeline Lolmaugh, a native of



Joseph Fearon



Elizabeth Fearon

the Hoosier state, and soon afterwards they moved to Newton, Kans., where Mrs. Gast's father, Jacob Lolmaugh, had settled in an early day. The children now living that were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gast are: Mrs. Emma Kellas; Mrs. Dora Pippig; Mrs. Mary Bell; Jacob A.; Mrs. Lizzie Pippig; Lawrence, of Newton, Kans.; Edward, of Long Beach; John B., of Colorado Springs; Peter, of Long Beach; Mrs. Laura Mickelberry, of Bakersfield; and Mrs. Margaret Skoegard, of Lemoore. Mr. Gast removed from Newton, Kans., to Larned, then back to Newton, and in 1906, came to California. He and his wife are now living retired in Fresno.

Since the death of Mr. Kellas, his widow, with the aid of her son, Floyd H., has operated the home place and has displayed much business acumen in the discharge of the duties falling upon her. Her sons are: Floyd Harrison, an expert horticulturist in charge of the Kellas ranch, and a member and clerk of the Locan school district; and Edward Leslie, a graduate of the law department of the University of California, and was admitted to practice; he was in the United States Army, served overseas as First Lieutenant in the Three Hundred Sixty-first Regiment. Mrs. Kellas is a Republican in political matters.

JOSEPH FEARON.—A pioneer couple who deserve the esteem and goodwill of every Californian—as, indeed, they undoubtedly have it—on account of the many sacrifices they made, during the really hard times of early days, to help develop and build the country, are Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fearon, among the oldest settlers in the Coalinga field. He was born in Lancashire, England, on March 17, 1843, and in that bustling and prosperous country he was reared. On account, however, of serious trouble to his eyes, in the nature of cataract, he could not go to school, nor study much, and his book education, therefore, was quite limited. He worked, first in the copper mines and then in the iron, of Lancashire. On April 8, 1870, he was married at Dalton, in Furness, England, to Miss Elizabeth Lightburn, a native of Newcastle-on-Tyne; and for eighteen years they continued to reside in Lancashire. All this while they were really preparing, while mastering their none too favorable conditions at home, for their next great step by which they were to venture all they had in the New World.

In May, 1888, they started for the United States, making their way first to West Virginia, where Mr. Fearon had a sister; and after visiting her, they came on to California and Fresno, to the home of another sister, Mrs. William Newby. They arrived on October 21, 1888, and that same month Mr. Fearon began working in the coal mines at Coalinga. He continued in that field about four years, and in the meantime located a preemption claim. This was for 160 acres in Sec. 8-20-15, and on this he proved up; and then he bought out the claim of 160 acres of Billie Montrose, and homesteaded it. This was adjoining his preemption, and he located on it, built a residence and improved the place. After five years of residence, he obtained the coveted Government deed; and while they were working for this, they engaged in stock-raising and farming.

Later, Mr. and Mrs. Fearon, finding that they might purchase 160 acres more, on Sec. 18-20-15, about one and a half miles from their homestead, made haste to secure it, and now they reside on this ranch where Mr. Fearon has drilled two wells for water, and is engaged in raising grain and stock. The 160 acres on Sec. 18 is leased for oil to the Lakeport Oil Company, which has there three producing wells; and the other block of 320 acres is leased to the Union Oil Company, which is developing the land as oil property.

Mr. and Mrs. Fearon have been blessed with eight children: John Henry resides in Fresno; William Edward is with the Union Oil Company in the Coalinga field, as is also his brother Joseph; Sarah Jane lives at home; Charles Thomas is in the service of the Nevada Petroleum Oil Company; Addison works for the Oil Well Supply Company in Coalinga; Agnes Hannah has

become Mrs. Prior of Taft; and Mark Atkinson is in the United States Army, serving in France.

Taking more than ordinary interest in civic affairs, Mr. Fearon is a loyal Republican; while in matters religious they follow the Anglican traditions and attend the Episcopal Church.

HENRY C. MILLER.—A veteran of the Civil War, Henry C. Miller was born at Upton, Worcester County, Mass., September 10, 1841, removing with his parents to Monroe, Greene County, Wis., in 1855. He received a good education in the public schools of Massachusetts and Wisconsin, and in September, 1861, he enlisted in the Fifth Wisconsin Light Artillery, McKnights Battery, serving under General Pope, then under General Rosen-cranz until he was honorably discharged August 11, 1862, when he returned home. He then became associated with his father, Levi B. Miller, in the mercantile business in Monroe. They had a tannery, manufactured leather which in turn they manufactured into boots and shoes and had a retail shoe store. Afterward Henry Miller attended Oberlin College and there learned the book-binding business, becoming the foreman of the book-binding department of the Adventist Publishing House in Battle Creek, Mich., a position he filled for a period of eleven years resigning to engage in business for himself, having his own book-binding establishment in Battle Creek until 1890 when he sold out and located in Burrough Valley, Fresno County, and where he owns fifty acres devoted to farming and raising fruits.

In Battle Creek, Mr. Miller was married to Martha A. Baker, who was born in Plattsburg, N. Y., and they had five children: William H., died in 1911; George resides in Glendale; Edith is Mrs. Law, a missionary to Nan-king, China; Jesse O. is operating the home place; and Letha, is Mrs. Mitchell of Marysville, Cal.; Jesse Orlo, who is in charge of the home farm, was born in Battle Creek, Mich., July 12, 1879, coming to California in 1890. He finished his education at Healdsburg College. In 1898 he enlisted in the United States Navy for service in the Spanish-American War for four years, serving on the U. S. S. Solace, then U. S. S. Don Juan de Austria, and was afterward transferred to the U. S. S. Helena, and then to the U. S. S. Oregon and again back to the Helena, and from that to the U. S. S. New Orleans on which he returned to San Francisco and was honorably discharged in 1902. During his service he was in the Hospital Corps of the United States Navy. For a time he was employed with the Hume-Bennett Lumber Company as a nurse in their hospital, but finally gave it up to engage in farming. He has a homestead of 320 acres in Burrough Valley and is also operating his father's farm, is intensely interested in stock-raising and is gradually building up a high grade herd of Herfords. Henry C. Miller is a member of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. In politics, he is an Independent.

FALLE P. HOLM.—An excellent young representative of Danish-American stock, who is studious, bright and well-informed, and has a ranch in a high state of culture, is Falle P. Holm, usually called Fred Holm, living a mile and a half west of Parlier on the Reedley road. He was born at Kolding, Denmark, on January 21, 1886, and is the son of Peter P. Holm. He married Ellen Kathrine Fallesen, who is also living, the mother of three children, among whom Falle P. is the oldest and the only one of the entire family in America. Peter Holm made trips to Australia and South Africa, as well as to New Zealand, mining for gold and diamonds; and through that hazardous occupation, he became well-to-do.

Fred received his schooling in Denmark, and he was brought up in the Lutheran Church. At Kolding he began to clerk in a store. He preferred the great outdoors, however, and before long he was attracted to California. He sailed from Hamburg on the Bluecher of the Hamburg-American line, and landed in New York City on September 6, 1904. His place of destination was Hanford, in Kings County, where he had a friend; and when he arrived there,

he worked out by the month on a grain and alfalfa ranch. He continued in Fresno County four years, working and renting land.

In 1908 Mr. Holm went back to Denmark, visited his parents and the old home for ten months, and for half of that time attended the Vallekill High School. Then once more he sailed for America, embarking at Copenhagen on the steamship United States, of the Scandinavian-American line and landing in New York in May, 1909. He came back to Fresno County, and in 1911 he went over to Solvang, in Santa Barbara County, and at the Atterdag College pursued a general commercial course for five months. Now he speaks and writes English and Danish.

On his return to Kerman, in Fresno County, in 1912, he farmed out for a while and then rented land until 1914; in the spring of that year he came to Parlier and bought his present place. He owns twenty acres which he keeps in a high state of cultivation. With the assistance of his wife, he does all the work, hiring about twenty pickers during the picking season, which is usually in the month of September; and this year he expects to realize quite \$3,500 from his crops.

Mr. Holm was married on April 2, 1914, to Miss Frederickke Thomsen, a daughter of Mathias Thomsen, a leading rancher near Parlier. Three children have been given this happy couple. Carl P. is the eldest, and there are Walter M. and Arthur L. Holm. The family are members of the Danish Church, and Mr. Holm is the church's secretary. He is a naturalized American and an enthusiastic supporter of President Wilson.

Z. D. NEDERHOUSE.—An experienced and enterprising oil man who has made good and is now superintendent of the Commercial Oil Company and also the W. M. & M. Oil Company, each operating over sixty acres at Coalinga, is Z. D. Nederhouse who came to California in 1909, having been born in Rising Sun, Ohio, in 1881.

He is the son of Daniel Nederhouse, a native of Ohio and a farmer, who is still living at Kansas in that state. He married Emma Goodman, also a native of Ohio, and she died in 1883. The only child in the family, Z. D. was brought up on a farm and educated at the public schools. His mother died when he was a babe, and he was reared by his grandmother, Mrs. Hannah (Bonewitz) Goodman Earl at Rising Sun, a lady of Holland Dutch descent.

When fourteen, the lad went to work in the oil fields at Rising Sun. He dressed tools until he was twenty-two, and then he engaged in the butcher business. He ran a butcher shop at Rising Sun for nearly three years; and on selling out, he removed to Casey, Ill. He was a tool-dresser in the Casey field, and then, for a short while, he went back to Ohio. In 1909 he came out to the Coalinga field and entered the employ of the W. M. & M. Company, and then on the Commercial Oil Company lease under Whaley and Stewart. Like a sensible man really desirous of mastering the field, he began at the bottom on this lease, and in 1916 he was made superintendent of the W. M. & M. Oil Company. In 1917 Mr. Nederhouse also became superintendent of the Commercial Oil Company, so that with the two leases to look after, he is responsible for the development of no less than 120 acres of oil lands.

LOUIS RUSCONI.—Into whatever portion of the world the Swiss people have gone, they have exemplified in their lives the traits of honor, integrity and thrift that give their homeland a prestige surpassed by none. Louis Rusconi is a typical example of his countrymen and was born in the canton of Ticino, Switzerland, March 4, 1875. His parents were Frank and Liberta Rusconi and he is the fourth son in a family of nine children. In 1889 he immigrated to the United States, after having finished his education in his native land, and for a time lived and worked in Napa County, after which he went to Solano County and there was engaged in the dairy business for a number of years.

It was in 1893 that he came to Fresno County and here took up viticulture, also engaging in the dairy business. In 1907 he took 280 acres of land to set out to vines on shares, and after three years he got his deed to 130 acres according to agreement. As he prospered he saved his money and added to his land holdings until he now owns 1,160 acres, 800 of which are in vineyard and orchard, a great deal of it having been improved by himself; ninety acres are in prunes, twenty of which are bearing; twenty acres have been sown to alfalfa; and the balance of the land is pasture. The ranch is well improved with buildings; a new and commodious residence has been built to replace the one destroyed by fire, in June, 1919, and it is one of the most pretentious homes in the community; a bunk house 36x80 feet in dimensions has been built for the convenience and comfort of his men; and he has barns and other outbuildings, including a large storage shed for boxes and trays. He owns his own packing house on the Santa Fe and over 300 cars of fruit are shipped each season. He employs forty men and looks well after their comfort, especially during the hot season. He is one of the largest independent producers in the county.

In 1901 Louis Rusconi was married to Miss Virginia Albertelli, born in canton Ticino, and who came to California to marry her boyhood friend and sweetheart. They have had sixteen children, six of whom are living: Frank; Guido; Blanche; Louis, Jr.; Joseph and a baby. The family are members of the Catholic Church. Mr. Rusconi is a stockholder in the Reedley National Bank and is a supporter of all movements for the building-up of Fresno County. In politics he is a Republican in national affairs.

When it is taken into consideration that when Mr. Rusconi came to Fresno County he was without funds, and now is reckoned as one of the most progressive and prominent citizens of the county, it shows what a person can accomplish when they set out with an object in view. He has worked hard, has been straightforward and square in all his dealings, has extended a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself and is held in high esteem by all who know him.

W. P. CRAWFORD.—A Californian who has made his way in the world ever since he was a lad, and who, after many years spent in the stock business, has risen to an influential position whereby he is able to serve his fellowmen, is W. P. Crawford, inspector and quarantine master, widely known for his devotion to duty. He is fortunate in his domestic life and in the companionship of a gifted wife who presides over his home, and with him enjoys the esteem of a wide circle of friends.

Born at Chinese Camp in Sonora, now Tuolumne County, June 21, 1872, W. P. Crawford was the son of W. D. Crawford, a gold-miner and a 49er, who mined gold at Don Pedro's Bar and at Golden City, and later, as a cattleman and butcher, went into the business of supplying mining camps with meat. There were two children in the family—John W., now a vineyardist at Grangeville, in Kings County, and W. P., the subject of this review.

In 1880, W. D. Crawford moved to Grangeville, now in Kings County, and there, shortly after he had bought land, he died, in his fifty-eighth year. W. P. was then only eight years of age, and for some years he remained at home; but while still quite young he secured his first employment on the Sutherland Estate. He was strong and lusty and easily did a man's daily labor; and at the same time, he went to the local public school. As an employee of the Sutherland Estate he became familiar with the Laguna de Tache Grant and its former owners, Poley Heilborn and Company; and he knew their successor, Mrs. Clark, as well as Messrs. Nares and Saunders, who about 1898, bought the Grant. He ranged cattle on the vast stretches now of such appreciated value.

Mr. Crawford, although but a young lad, learned his first lessons in the stock business from his father, who was a butcher and a cattleman, and one of the best-informed men for many miles around. Later still W. P. became



Adolph Domengine.



Mary A. Dominguez

interested in the raising of hogs; and he enjoyed an enviable reputation for his out-put of swine from the Fitzwilliams' ranch, which he rented. Having become widely known for exceptional experience Mr. Crawford, in 1907, became State Stock Inspector and also County Quarantine Master; and being repeatedly re-appointed, he has conducted with credit these two offices ever since. He is also the State Sheep Inspector for this district.

During these busy, but very profitable years, Mr. Crawford enlarged his acquaintanceship, and among those whom he came to know well, is John A. Wilson, the banker at Hanford. The two have formed a partnership known as Wilson & Crawford, and they are now engaged in raising, buying, fattening, and selling cattle. At the present time they have 900 head which are kept on rented land north of Laton in Fresno County and west of Guernsey in Kings County.

In 1913 Mr. Crawford was married to Miss Frances Hall, a native of Texas who came to Los Angeles with her parents, and two children have blessed their union—Percy and Viola L. Mrs. Crawford's father was a native of Ohio who came out to California in 1849, mined for gold, returned to the East, married in Ohio and then brought his bride west. Mr. Crawford's mother, who was Miss Margaret Jones before her marriage, is still living on her ranch at Grangeville.

ADOLPH DOMENGINE.—A native son of the Golden West who has achieved success and prominence is Adolph Domengine, who was born on the corner of Pacific and Stockton Streets in the city of San Francisco, on February 6, 1856. His father, John Domengine, was a native of France, born at St. Abbiet, Basses Pyrenees. On learning of the discovery of gold in California he came on the sailing vessel Tempcred around Cape Horn to San Francisco in 1849. He made his way to the mines where he fortunately met with good success.

After a few years of mining he returned to France where he was married to Marie Claverie, and then brought his bride to California; at the same time he also brought his brother, Mathew, and his sister, Catherine. For a time he was engaged in the laundry business in San Francisco and then removed to near Santa Clara where he became the owner of 400 acres of land and engaged in raising cattle till 1865 when he sold the place for \$4,000. In the dry year of 1864 he lost heavily of his herd and what he had left he sold for \$900, but before he could collect it was attached and he lost it also. They had moved onto the ranch at Santa Clara on account of the mother's health, but the change did not benefit her as they had expected, and she died in 1859, leaving three children,—two girls and a boy. Their Uncle Mathew then took the three children back to France while the father, John Domengine, remained in California and entered the employ of Miller & Lux at the 12-Mile Ranch near Baden, San Mateo County, where he was foreman until 1867 when he engaged in the sheep business. He bought sheep in Los Angeles and vicinity and drove them to the San Francisco market. After three years he began sheep-raising on the San Luis Ranch at Pacheco Pass, until 1873, when he sold out and returned to his native France, where he made his home until he died in 1885. The three children were: Maria, who died at nine years of age, in France; Leona, who is Mrs. Brinil and resides in St. Abbiet, France; and Adolph, our subject, who was the second oldest.

When three years of age Adolph was taken back to France, residing at St. Abbiet where he attended school until 1868. He then came back to California, coming via the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco. In 1869-70 he made a trip to Los Angeles with his father for a band of sheep and helped drive them to San Francisco, after which he attended school in that city for twenty-two months. In May, 1872, he began herding sheep for his father on the San Luis Ranch, continuing with him until he sold out in 1873, and then he continued with Simon Camy who had purchased his father's property. In 1874 they moved the sheep to near Fresno, on the San Joaquin River,

until Mr. Camy sold to Peter Lorquier, who ran them on the plains between Fresno and the San Joaquin River.

Mr. Domengine at this time saw the brick burned for the first courthouse in Fresno. In 1875 he engaged with Peter Casson in ranging the sheep on the West Side, over land that our subject now owns. He found that all he could expect to receive from the small sheepman was \$35 a month so he changed and went to work for Miller & Lux. After herding a year for them, he drove on the road for them three years and then became foreman of sheep for them until September, 1883. At this time he returned to the West Side and purchased from Peter Etchegoin the possessory right of his present place, purchasing his 3,200 head of sheep and outfit at the same time, and continuing the business. He preempted 160 acres and homesteaded 160 acres, and as he prospered he bought railroad land as well as other lands, until he now owns about 10,000 acres in two different ranches. He also leases about 5,000 acres, his range being scattered over a distance of twelve miles.

In 1912, Mr. Domengine sold his sheep and turned his attention to raising cattle of the Durham strain, having some fine full-blooded Durhams at the head of his herd. His brand is a D with a quarter circle above, and A. The Domengine Ranch extends from the plains back into the foothills of the Coast Range, a little way below the Joaquin Rock, abounding in streams and springs, making a splendid cattle ranch, where he ranges about a thousand head of cattle. Some of the lands on the plains he leases for grain-raising. He is a member of the California Cattle Growers Association, and also of the American National Live Stock Association.

The marriage of Mr. Domengine to Miss Mary A. Pfitzer occurred in Fresno, April 15, 1887. She was born in Shingle Springs, Iowa, and came with her parents across the plains in an emigrant train when a babe in arms. Her father, Anthony Pfitzer, was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, and came to Illinois when a young man and there he married Theresia Myers, also a Wurtemberger. In 1863, Anthony Pfitzer crossed the plains to California and engaged in stock-raising near Los Banos, Merced County, becoming a prominent man and large land-owner, and there he died in 1891, while his wife died in Berkeley, in May, 1919, eighty-six years of age. Mrs. Domengine is the third oldest of their nine children, all of whom are living. She was educated in the public schools at Los Banos, Notre Dame Academy in Santa Clara, and at San Jose State Normal. Mr. and Mrs. Domengine have three children: Adolph M., who finished his schooling at Chestnutwoods Business College, at Santa Cruz; Edna M., educated at Holy Cross Academy, Santa Cruz; and Walter, at the Oakland Polytechnic, and all are now associated with their parents in the cattle business.

A brief history of the Domengine Ranch is very interesting. It was first settled by George L. Hoffman as early as 1862, and lumber was hauled from Stockton to build the first cabin, the walls of which are still standing on the place, being preserved by a new roof. Hoffman sold to Bertram Yribarren who occupied the place from 1868 to 1872, when he sold to Peter Etchegoin who held it till September 1, 1883, when Mr. Domengine purchased his possessory right, this claim being on railroad lands, Sec. 29-18-15; which he later purchased from the railroad company. In 1883 he also bought Mr. Etchegoin's claim on an upper ranch, in Sec. 25-18-14, which had been originally located in 1864 by Jose Aricocha, who later acquired title to it. It is also a splendid ranch location at an elevation of over 2,500 feet, with excellent springs of water.

Mr. and Mrs. Domengine are among the oldest settlers of the West Side. They are people of culture and are interested in education and advancement, and wield a wide influence for good. By their perseverance and industry they have attained success and prominence, and their example is well worthy of emulation. Being firm believers in protection, they are stanch Republicans.

MICHAEL STIEGLITZ.—A native of foreign shores who, although coming to Fresno County rather late in her development, has been able in a few short years, by wise foresight and exemplary industry, to reach that degree of prosperity that he has recently retired, is Michael Stieglitz, who was born in Samara, Russia, on November 4, 1862, the son of Peter Stieglitz, a farmer, who with his good wife is now deceased.

Michael was brought up on his father's farm and educated at the public schools, and in 1884 he began his military service in the Russian Army. He was assigned to an artillery regiment, and after serving five years, mostly in Southern Russia, was honorably discharged as a non-commissioned officer. He followed farming in his native place until June 25, 1898, when he came to Fresno, and for four and a half years was employed by Joe House. Then he worked for Frank Rehorn, the builder, for over nine years, and for four years he was in the employ of the Rosenberg Packing Company.

In 1912, with two partners he started a dry goods store on the site where he is now located, under the firm name of C. Grasmick & Co., and a year later they built an addition to the store, and added a stock of groceries. In 1914 Mr. Stieglitz bought his partners out and continued the business alone. Later he disposed of the dry-goods department and continued the sale of groceries and meats.

In the spring of 1918 he sold the stock and buildings to his son Fred, who continues the business so well established by Mr. Steiglitz. In November, 1898, he bought the corner Ventura and D Streets and built the residence where he has lived all these years, and he has also built up other residence property in Fresno. A Republican in national politics, he is at all times intensely American.

Eight children were given to Mr. and Mrs. Stieglitz, of whom four grew up and are still living. Mollie is Mrs. Helmuth of Biola; Ferdinand has succeeded his father as a merchant; Anna is Mrs. Bitters of Fresno; Katherine was born in Fresno, and is now the wife of George Reitz. The family are members of the Lutheran Church.

ARTHUR BERRY.—A business man who has proven his capacity in the field of ranch management, having profited greatly through his association with his more experienced brother, and a likable fellow who has made a host of friends, so that two things seem certain; he will some day be heard from on a larger and more responsible scale, and when he is, there will be no one to envy him, but many to felicitate on his success, is Arthur Berry, the bookkeeper in charge of the Barton Vineyard. He was born at Ossett, in Yorkshire, England, the son of Walter Berry, the manufacturer of cloths and representative of an old English family. He was for a time at Bournemouth, then afterward at Exeter; and in Devonshire he retired and died, in 1909. He had married Emily Matthews, also a native of English soil; and after a long and faithful companionship, she died, in August, 1916. Eight children had blessed their union; and all eight are living today.

The second youngest, Arthur is one of two only who have come to America, the other son being Thomas W. Berry, who is in partnership with him at Lane's Bridge. He was brought up in England and educated at private schools, completing his courses at the picturesque seaside town of Bournemouth. Then he was articted to a land agent, and for three years he studied the methods of business. By 1905 he had considerable knowledge of the world and he concluded to join his brother, who had come out to California years before.

Accordingly Mr. Berry crossed the ocean and the American continent, pitched his tent in Fresno County, and entered the service of the California Wine Association, in whose Fresno office he was made bookkeeper. He filled the position for about six years, and then with his brother started farming at Modesto. They bought forty acres of raw land and improved it with a vineyard and an orchard; and three years later they sold it at a profit.

Returning to Fresno, they bought their present place of sixty-five acres at Lane's Bridge, where they are raising peaches, and other fruit, and alfalfa. Under their touch everything seems to prosper; but it is also clear that steady, hard, honest labor such as they are quite willing and disposed to expend upon their ventures, has much to do with their success. They have also exceptionally choice land—a streak of good luck due in part to their wise selection of the raw acreage and to their skill in improvements. He is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and no more aggressive and progressive worker deliberates in its councils. Through such life and work the name of Berry has come to have a pleasant ring in Fresno County, and even beyond.

HARRY HILL.—An industrious and successful rancher of Riverdale, well known for his large-heartedness and kind disposition, is Harry Hill, whose record alone as a nurse for three years in the Philippines during the Spanish-American War would entitle him to the consideration of his fellow men. He is a dairyman, following the most scientific methods, and owns and operates 100 acres known as the Sunny Hill Stock Ranch, a mile west and a mile north of Riverdale, and operating also a second ranch.

He was born at Victoria, Kans., on April 29, 1882, and when six months old was taken to Junction City, Kans., where a dreadful tragedy occurred which threw a shadow over his whole life. His father, Thomas Hill, a Scotchman by birth, had a livery stable; and on February 17, 1887, returned to his barn after supper and was there attacked by one Jem Smith, and stabbed to death. Smith had nursed an old grudge on account of a horse-trade, and in this way sought to wreak his unholy revenge. He was apprehended and sent to Leavenworth prison for life, but this was little help to the dependent widow and her two children, Harry, the subject of our sketch, and Thomas Oliver, who is employed by the Standard Oil Company at Coalinga. Five months after the death of the father a sister was born, but she died, while Harry was in the Philippines, of spinal meningitis.

Thomas Hill, the father, married Mary Caroline Ashbaugh, a native of Freeport, Ill., and a member of a family that came from Canada to Stephenson County, that state. They were of Scotch-Irish blood, and their children thus inherited the most serviceable of personal characteristics. The parents both came to Kansas while they were young, and they married at Hayes City, after which they moved back to Junction City. Mr. Hill left a little home and livery barn, and a life insurance of \$2,000, but our subject shared in a hard time.

Harry grew up at Junction City, and lived with and worked for two uncles, Fred and Oliver Ashbaugh, at the home of their mother, Mrs. Julia Ashbaugh, who owned the farm of eighty acres near Junction City. On December 13, 1899, he enlisted in the Spanish-American War, joining the Hospital Corps, and went to Jolo, in the Island of Jolo, a very interesting section of the Philippines and the home of the sultan or ruler with his twenty-three wives. He served in the Fifteenth United States Cavalry under the redoubtable Col. Hugh Scott, who had two fingers of his right hand and three fingers of his left shot off in action. He sailed from San Francisco thirteen days after enlisting, and stopped for six hours at the Island of Guam, going over, and then sailed directly for Manila, arriving there under quarantine. The United States battleship New York, Dewey's flagship, fired a salute, as the transport Sheridan, carrying our subject's company, sailed into Manila harbor. Mr. Hill had plenty of training and practice as a hospital nurse, was never sick in the service, and served three years and sixteen days, or sixteen days over the time for which he enlisted. Coming home, his transport sailed through Formosa Straits, and stopped at Nagasaki, Japan, for three days, whence they proceeded to Honolulu, and landed at San Francisco, on December 28, 1902.



Harry Hill and Family:

After the war, Mr. Hill went to Los Angeles and worked in a drug store until six months before his marriage. On October 14, 1905, he was married at Downey, to Miss Ethel A. Andrews, the daughter of William Henry and Martha Sabria (Curtis) Andrews, both natives of Ohio, in which state they were married in Putnam County, on April 13, 1867. Mr. Andrews enlisted as a private in Company H, One Hundred Thirty-third Ohio, N. G. Infantry, and served through the Civil War. He was an engineer and ran a traction engine and a threshing machine. Mrs. Andrews was born at Ottawa, Ohio, on March 22, 1847. Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Andrews came to California, and the vicinity of Colusa. The trip took a month or more, and was made by water, via Panama. They later moved to Los Angeles County, where they lived for many years. For forty-nine years Mrs. Andrews lived in California, seeing its evolution from a collection of scattered mining camps to one of the finest commonwealths in the Union; and during this time she became the mother of eight children, six of whom survive her: R. C. Andrews and Mrs. Mina King live at Long Beach; Mrs. Bertha Scholl resides at Venice; Mrs. Lena Davidson is in Los Angeles; F. A. Andrews and Mrs. Ethel Hill are residents of Riverdale. Two brothers of Mrs. Andrews, W. W. Curtis of Kerman and Bildad Curtis of Downey, also survive her. William Henry Andrews died on March 22, 1908, after which she made her home with her Riverdale children. Mrs. Andrews passed away on November 25, 1916.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Hill made a wedding trip to Kansas, but they returned to California in December, 1905. It was then that they came to Riverdale and the next year bought 100 acres, on which they have built a house and the usual barns and other outbuildings. They have twenty-two milch cows, young stock and hogs. In 1916, Mr. Hill bought eighty acres more, six miles west of Riverdale, and south Burrell, so that he is now the owner of 180 acres in the Riverdale and Burrell sections of Fresno County. Mr. Hill is now engaged in breeding full-blood registered Holstein-Friesian cattle. He has twelve registered cows, and a registered sire, Sir Veeman Helena-Korndyke, from a champion butter-and-milk strain, being from dams with records of 31.9 pounds of butter per week. He is also breeding full-blood registered Duroc-Jersey swine, and has several of the finest individuals in California. The boar at the head of his drove is a son of the celebrated Berk's Good-Enough, one of the most valuable prize-winners in America.

Mrs. Thomas Hill, the subject's mother, was married a second time, when she became the wife of C. C. Daggett of Riverdale; and their daughter, Julia A. Daggett, is the wife of A. D. McKean, the cashier of the First National Bank of Riverdale, a sketch of whose life is elsewhere given in this volume.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hill have seven children, all boys, of whom Walter H. is the eldest, in his twelfth year. Thomas Clayton comes next, while Harold F. and Gerald C. are twins. Then there are William A., Howard W., and Francis L. Mr. Hill was in the eighteen-forty-five draft, Class 4 A, and did patriotic duty as the drill-master at Riverdale, getting into excellent shape a volunteer company of fifty soldiers.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill are active members of the United Brethren Church at Riverdale, in which Mr. Hill is a trustee. They also belong to the church choir. Mrs. Hill is active in the Ladies' Aid and the Red Cross. Mr. Hill was school trustee of the district for nine years and of the Riverdale high school for two years. He is a Republican in national politics, and is ready to support all movements for local advancement regardless of party lines.

We take pride in calling attention to the portrait of Harry Hill and family, with seven bright and vigorous sons. It is just such a family as the late Theodore Roosevelt cherished.

FRANK C. DAVIS.—Among Central Californians distinguished for their honesty of purpose, and integrity of their lives inspired by noble ideals and the commendable desire to do unto others as they themselves would wish to be done by, is Frank C. Davis who first came to Coalinga in 1908. He was born in Jasper County, Mo., in 1861, the son of James H. Davis, whose native state was Michigan. The latter located in Missouri, where he was married to Sarah Grubb, a native of Illinois, and he became a stone-cutter at Carthage and worked at his trade until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he went to Fort Leavenworth. He enlisted in the Union Army in the Sixth Kansas Volunteer Infantry Regiment, and served throughout the War; and then he returned to farm in Jasper County. He improved his place, and had one of the attractive farms of that period and section. Both parents died in Missouri. There were five sons, and two are still living; and of these our subject is the only one in California.

He was brought up on a farm in Jasper County, Mo., and educated in the public schools. When seventeen years old he started out for himself and traveled widely through the Middle and Central states. Near Aitkin, Minn., he bought forty acres of timber land and engaged in logging—getting out pine timber and driving logs on different rivers. Then he went to Ruluff, Texas, with the Sabine Tram Lumber Company, as assistant engineer in the mills, and for a while was at Spindletop, the same state, in the Beaumont oil fields, and while in Texas was married to Miss Sallie Elliott, from Alabama. Two children—Alice and May—brighten the home of Mr. and Mrs. Davis.

In 1908 Mr. Davis came to Coalinga and entered the employ of the associated Pipe Line Company and took part in the construction of their west side pipe line; and after eleven months he was transferred to the Associated's loading rack at Coalinga and was in charge of the important work of loading. He returned to Texas in 1909 and spent a year there; but in August, 1910, came back to Coalinga, and was again with the Associated on National 30. Since August 14, that year, he has been foreman of the lease, which has ten producing wells. In national politics, Mr. Davis is a Republican.

HERBERT B. QUICK.—New York State, still the empire commonwealth, has contributed many a valued settler to the development of the Golden State, and none more worthily represents the energy and resourcefulness of the East than H. B. Quick who, with that foresight, enterprise and commonsense-venture characteristic of the long line from which he sprang, has made much of what he undertook to husband, at the same time devoting time, thought and labor, in true public-spiritedness, in fields of activity designed for the larger and general good. He was born in Wyoming County, N. Y., November 11, 1875, and is the son of Milan W. and Catherine (Stamp) Quick, natives respectively of New York and England. Notwithstanding the valuable and historic connections of the Quicks in New York, the family moved from there to Iowa in 1882; and among the Hawkeyes they lived and worked for four years. Then they migrated to Nebraska, taking up their residence there in 1886.

In 1905 Mr. and Mrs. Quick could no longer resist the call of California and so they came west to investigate for themselves. After spending six months in Fresno County, with their son H. B. (who had preceded them one year to California) they settled at Santa Cruz which place is still the home of the father, the mother passing on to her reward in August, 1919. Six children were born to this worthy couple and five of them are now living yet only the parent and subject of this sketch are so fortunate as to gaze upon the subtropical skys of California.

H. B. Quick was reared at home, and sent to the public schools; and being sensible and studious, he improved the opportunities offered him to prepare for future usefulness. As a boy, he had his attention directed to agriculture, and he has always taken a very live interest in and followed that

undertaking, availing himself of every helpful suggestion from science, using the most up-to-date methods and the most approved appliances, and getting the highest possible results. He has eighty acres of land, the home ranch of forty-one and a half acres, only half of which was improved when he took charge of it; so that its present fine condition is due in part to his own initiative and experience. The ranch is devoted to the production of apricots, peaches, prunes, Thompson and Muscat grapes; and such has been his success for some time that his average yield is one and a half tons to the acre. Mr. Quick has prided himself on the quality and the progress of his cultivation; nor have the care and the labor thus bestowed by him gone unrewarded.

Despite his heavy responsibilities, Mr. Quick has for years taken an interest in educational work, both here and elsewhere. He was one of the principal promoters and organizers in the River Bend school district, and was elected a member of the school board, a position he has since filled continuously. In every case where a proposition meaning advancement was before the people, Mr. Quick has come out boldly for taking the step forward.

In February, 1900, he was united by marriage to Miss Pearl L., daughter of Ebenezer and Lucy M. Balch; and their union was blessed by the birth of four children. Max W., the youngest, is deceased; Velma I., Clarence R., and George H. Quick give comfort to their parents and bid fair to honor an honored name. Mrs. Quick was born in Bond County, Ill., December 13, 1875, and is a most estimable lady, contributing her share to a blending of the best phases of Eastern and Western social life. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mr. Quick has long been a trustee.

STEPHEN WALTON RHODES.—The capable superintendent of the B. M. Hopper Vineyard, near Biola, Fresno County, is Stephen W. Rhodes, born in Rhodelia, Meade County, Ky., March 21, 1892. The town of Rhodelia is named for his great-grandfather Rhodes, who was a farmer in that locality, and where five or six generations of the Rhodes family have resided.

His father, Francis Rhodes, was born there; his mother in maidenhood, was Cordia Durbin, daughter of Stephen Durbin, and she is a native of Breckenridge County, Ky., and still resides on her farm at Rhodelia, Ky. Ten children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Francis Rhodes, seven of whom are living: Stephen being the fifth youngest. He was reared on a Kentucky farm, and remained at home until he was seventeen years old, when he started out to work for himself. He obtained employment with the Adams Express Company, at St. Louis, Mo., where he remained one year. After traveling through different states, in 1911, he reached Dinuba, Tulare County, Cal., where he secured work in a vineyard. Subsequently, he went to Fowler, where he was distiller for the old Kirby Company at Fowler and Selma; from 1912 to 1914 Mr. Rhodes was the distiller for the California Wine Association at Calwa, and Smith Mountain.

During 1914, Mr. Rhodes took a trip back east, and when he returned, he secured employment at Reedley, Cal. In February, 1917, he went to the B. M. Hopper ranch near Biola, where after being employed only two months, his services were so satisfactory that he was made superintendent of the place, which consisted of a vineyard of 160 acres, mostly in Muscat grapes, although there are a few Thompson seedless. In January, 1919, he resigned his position, having bought a ten-acre fig orchard in the Barstow Colony and moved onto it. However, on May 15, 1919, he again accepted a position with Mr. Hopper as superintendent of his 160-acre vineyard.

At Reedley, Cal., Stephen W. Rhodes was united in marriage with Miss Rosemary Cecil; she was born in Missouri, but reared in California. This happy union has been blessed with two children, Stephen Rhodes, Jr., and Dorothy. Mr. Rhodes is a member of the Catholic Church in Fresno. He has been very successful as a vineyardist, and is regarded as an authority on matters pertaining to viticulture.

WILLIAM BARNETT.—A thorough mechanic who is particularly successful as an electrician is William Barnett, chief electrician for the Shell Company of California at Oilfields, one of the most responsible positions of its kind in the State. He was born in Wigtownshire, Scotland, in 1880, the son of Charles Barnett, who was a merchant. He married Margaret Ross, who became the mother of six children. Both parents are living, retired; and three of the children are in California—Joe, a machinist, with the Shell Company at Oilfields; Charles, a carpenter and builder, is at Visalia; and William who is the subject of this sketch.

He was the eldest of the family, and received a public school education in his native country, finishing at the Glenluce Academy. When he had put aside his books, he assisted his father in his mercantile business, remaining with him until 1903 when he came out to Winnipeg, in Manitoba, and for a year took up electrical work. In 1904, he came to California, stopped in San Francisco, but the same year came to Oilfields, in Fresno County, where he entered the employ of the California Oilfields, Ltd., taking charge of their electrical work. At the end of the year, he went to Coalinga to manage the Coalinga Electric Light Plant; but by the end of the next year he had resigned and returned to Oilfields.

Since then Mr. Barnett has had charge of the lighting plant here and built that up from the start. He wired the whole camp, and has installed all the electrical connections. He continued with the Shell Company when it came into possession in 1913; and four years later when the electrical department was placed under one head, he was made chief electrician, to the satisfaction of everyone concerned and acquainted with his superior fitness.

At San Francisco, Mr. Barnett was married to Miss Catherine E. Fitzgibbons, a native of Ireland, who came as a child with her parents to the Bay city, and later moved to Portland, Ore., where she was reared and educated. She is a charming lady and rightly shares with her husband an enviable popularity. Mr. Barnett is a member of the Knights of Pythias, Chapter No. 144 of Coalinga.

JOHN T. PETERSEN.—In most every section of the Golden State are evidences of the thrift and perseverance of men who have passed their childhood days on the picturesque farms of Denmark. The subject of this review, John T. Petersen, first saw the light of day on November 30, 1864, in Abenrade, Slesvig, and is the son of Peter Thomsen and Mary (Lorriezen) Petersen, who were the parents of two sons; John T., the subject of this sketch, and Niels L., who now resides in Oakland. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Petersen are both deceased.

John T. Petersen was reared on a farm and received his early education in the public school of Slesvig. When nineteen years of age, being drafted for service in the German army, John Petersen determined to escape Prussian military oppression by leaving Germany, and successfully accomplished his purpose by walking over the German line into Denmark, after which he made his way to Esbjerg, where he took a ship for Hull, England, and from there he went to Glasgow, where he set sail for New York City. After reaching America, Mr. Petersen continued his journey Westward until he reached the state of Iowa, where he arrived on July 1, 1884. He secured work on a farm near Marshalltown, and continued to work as a farm hand until 1896 when he bought 160 acres of land near Marshalltown, Iowa, and engaged in farming for himself, raising oats, corn, cattle and hogs. Mr. Petersen continued there until 1904, when he sold his Iowa farm and removed to Selma, Fresno County, Cal., where he bought a ranch and orchard and engaged in viticulture, dairying and fruit raising. In 1910 he sold his property at Selma and bought a place of forty acres on White's Bridge Road, two and a half miles west of Fresno, where he engaged in operating a vineyard of Muscat and Thompson seedless grapes, also a small dairy. However, in 1919, he



W. F. Plate

sold out and built a comfortable bungalow at No. 224 Yosemite Avenue, Fresno, where he now makes his home.

At Marshalltown, Iowa, April 26, 1893, John T. Petersen was united in marriage with Tina Petersen, a native of Aalborg, Denmark, and this happy union has been blessed with four children: Blanche K., a graduate of both the Fresno High, and the State Normal Schools, was a teacher in Fresno County, but was doing instruction work in the United States Army at San Antonio, Texas, during the War. Annie M., a graduate of Fresno High and Heald's Business College, is a stenographer and is a bookkeeper in Fresno; Leonard P., and Jennie M. are students in the Fresno high school.

While living in the Fruitvale district, Mr. Petersen was school trustee for a number of years. Fraternally, he is a member of the A. O. U. W., and religiously is a Lutheran, and is chairman of the board of trustees of the Danish Lutheran Church, at Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Petersen and their family are highly esteemed in the community where they reside, Mr. Petersen being regarded as one of the prosperous vineyardists of his section. He is always greatly interested in those movements that have as their aim the upbuilding of the viticultural and horticultural interests of Fresno County, and is a member and a stockholder in both the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company.

WILLARD F. PLATE.—One who has many recollections of persons, occasions and places in Central California, is Willard F. Plate, a New Yorker by birth, born in Niagara County, fourteen miles east of Niagara Falls, on the Erie Canal, on May 1, 1845. His father, Henry Plate, was born in Fayette, Seneca County, N. Y., and located in Niagara County where he married Jane Flanders, a native of the same county. He was a farmer there, but in 1868 moved to Macomb County, Mich., where he continued to farm, and where he died almost eighty years of age. Mrs Plate also died there, at an advanced age. They had three children, and all are living.

Willard F. was the oldest, and he was reared on a farm and attended the public schools, including the Lockport High School; and on completion of his studies he went into the oil-fields near Zanesville, Ohio, where he helped drill wells. Then he worked as a pumper, delivering oil to McConnellsville. Having saved some money, he went to Poughkeepsie, N. Y., in 1866, to attend the Eastman Business College, from which he was graduated the following year; and on returning home he was married to Miss Lizzie Tennant, a native of Niagara County, N. Y. He farmed for a year, and in 1868 moved to Macomb County, Mich., where he resumed farming and, with his father, bought a farm. He was not satisfied, however, so in May, 1874, he came west to California.

He could then have bought lots just adjoining the City Hall in San Francisco, but meeting Mr. Gould, he accepted a post as superintendent of the Gould Ditch and so came to Fresno County. In 1875 he was busy shearing sheep in Fresno, and he sheared sheep on the site of the present residence of Frank Short, between K and L streets. He ran a level for engineers, and so helped run a level for the flume into Clovis. Mr. Plate helped put in a dam at the Eisen vineyard; and later he built a water wheel on Fancher Creek. He also helped make the first vintage in Fresno County in 1877, at the Eisen vineyard. In 1877, he joined Mr. Fleming as a partner in the Fleming Livery Stable at the corner of Mariposa and J streets, on the present site of Bowman's drug store; but the dry year of 1877 came and he sold out to Mr. Fleming and went to Boise City, Idaho.

After working at mechanical work there for two years, he was sent for by the Gould Canal Company and made superintendent of the canal, then for three years he followed mechanical work in and out of Fresno, but in 1904 he went to San Francisco and engaged in carpentering and building. After that he went to Butte County and helped put in the woodwork of the Butte

County canal. At the end of the summer he was back again in San Francisco, just in time to experience the earthquake.

After Mr. Plate's return to Fresno County, he worked awhile as a carpenter, and then he went back again to San Francisco and engaged with the building department of the Southern Pacific Railroad. He was also in the employ of Horst Bros., at Sacramento, and he assisted to put in the first hop-picking machines. At the end of five seasons, with that well-known firm he returned to Fresno for the last time. This was in the spring of 1915, when he leased his present place on Cole Avenue, near Clinton, where he started to raise and feed hogs for the market. He has continued in this line, with increasing success.

Two sons and two daughters have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Plate: Nora, who is Mrs. Barr of Fresno; Cora, with the Rosenberg Company; Charles, with the Associated Oil Company; and William, a rancher at the corner of Palm and Trenton streets. In politics, Mr. Plate is a Socialist, but first, last and all the time he is an American.

JESSE G. DICKEY.—Fresno, like many other cities of California, numbers among its prominent citizens of today many who came thither for their health. Such was the case of Jesse G. Dickey who was born on a tobacco plantation near Mayfield, Ky., February 7, 1865, the son of Jackson and Jane Elizabeth (Sammons) Dickey, both natives of Kentucky. The Dickey family is of Scotch origin, while the Sammons are of English descent.

Jackson Dickey was born in Harrowsburg, Ky., the youngest of a family of twelve children, he lived to the advanced age of seventy-two years; his estimable wife passed away at the age of seventy. Grandfather James Dickey was born in the South, where the Dickey's had been planters for several generations. Jesse G. Dickey's maternal grandfather, William Sammons, was a pioneer merchant near Madisonville, Ky.

Jesse G. Dickey attended the country school and later the Male and Female Academy at Providence, Ky., and at the early age of fifteen he left home and began single-handed to fight life's battles for himself and ever since has been making his own way in the world. For eight years he was a retail salesman in a clothing store at Corydon, Ky., and for five years subsequently was associated with the E. Donovan Company, who conducted a chain of stores throughout the South. Severing his connection with the Donovan Company he learned the painting and decorating trade, which business he followed for a number of years in the Middle West.

On account of ill health Mr. Dickey left the Middle West and in 1904 came to Fresno, Cal., where he has resided ever since. For the first eight years he was employed as a journeyman with leading painting and contracting concerns in Fresno and in 1911 he began contracting for himself and chose as his business motto "quality first." Through fair and square dealings and conscientious efforts Mr. Dickey has built up an extensive and lucrative business. The following are mentioned as some of the contracts he has completed in Fresno: The Wonder Store; Hill Milliner Store; the Ball Block; the First Christian Church; the F. W. Woolworth Building. Mr. Dickey also worked on the Frank Short residence, the Charles G. Bonner home and many other residences.

Mr. Dickey is a member of the Master House Painters' Association, local, state and international, of the United States and Canada. He is an influential member of the executive board of the State Association of California. Mr. Dickey owns a forty-acre ranch northwest of Fresno and his attractive cottage residence at 101 Oleander Street, Fresno, where he and Mrs. Dickey dispense a liberal hospitality.

Jesse G. Dickey was married in Kentucky in 1890, to L. Eunice Powell, a resident of the same state. Both he and his wife are active members of the First Christian Church of Fresno.

HENRY PRETZER, JR.—A prosperous dairyman and farmer, Henry Pretzer, Jr., who resides on his 100-acre ranch, on North and Lincoln avenues eleven miles southwest of Fresno, is a native of Russia, born about twenty miles from Soratov on April 24, 1880, a son of Henry and Katherine Margretha (Weber) Pretzer.

In 1887 Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pretzer, Sr., emigrated from the Volga River country, Russia, to Yankton, S. D., where Mr. Pretzer was a farmer. In 1888 he migrated farther west bringing his family to Fresno County, Cal. He was a West Side grain farmer in Fresno County for years but is now practically retired from active farm work and lives with his good wife on Blythe Avenue, Fresno County, but is still the owner of an eighty-acre ranch. After the family located in the Golden State, Henry Pretzer, Jr., attended the public schools, worked with his father as a grain farmer and it was in Fresno County that he grew to manhood.

In May, 1902, Henry Pretzer, Jr., was united in marriage with Miss Anna Schütz, a native of Russia. She came to America with her mother in 1902. Her sister Katie, who is the wife of Will Pretzer, Jr., had come to California in 1888, but were members of the Pretzer party that left Russia in 1887. They reside in Fresno.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Pretzer, Jr., are the parents of eight children: Daniel Albert; Samuel Fred; Bertha, who died at ten years of age; Emma; Katie and Elizabeth are twins; Elsie; and Rosa. The family are members of the German Evangelical Church of Fresno of which organization Mr. Pretzer is a trustee. By hard work and persistent efforts he has become a successful dairyman and rancher on the land he purchased about 1910. Forty acres of his ranch are devoted to raising alfalfa for his herd of twenty cows. He has made every improvement on the place, built the buildings, checked for alfalfa the forty acres and installed an electric pumping plant.

Mr. Pretzer is public spirited and always interested in worthy movements that have as their aim the upbuilding of Fresno County and the advancement of the community where he resides, but is especially interested in all educational matters and served three years as school trustee of the Kearney district and is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association.

P. D. TANGNEY.—An experienced machinist who understands the principles of machinery so that he is careful of every detail of responsibility, is P. D. Tangney, who was born in New York City on December 2, 1864, the son of John Tangney who was a mechanic and a tanner. He married Adelia Darcey; and both lived their useful lives and died in "York State."

The second oldest of three children, P. D. Tangney was reared in New York State where he received a good schooling in the public system and at the Franklinville, N. Y., high school; and after completing the course in the latter institution, he was apprenticed as a machinist with the New York Steam Engine Company, where he became a journeyman. He then went to the Pennsylvania oil fields and learned the oil business, beginning with tool dressing and finally becoming an oil operator in the Bradford district. He was also an oil operator in the McKean field in Pennsylvania. Next he was active in West Virginia, and later in Ohio, and then he spent a while in Indiana, Illinois, Oklahoma, Kansas and Kentucky, in each case working in the oilfields.

In 1885 Mr. Tangney made a trip to England and spent almost two years in that country working in Manchester, Bolton, Liverpool, and Yorkshire. The experience was broadening, and particularly satisfactory, on account of the favorable way in which his methods and work were received by the English.

As a gold-mining engineer, Mr. Tangney, in 1907, made his way to Jackson County, Ore., and for a year engaged at Gold Hill, on Rogue River, as the superintendent of a mine. In 1908 he came to Oilfields and entered the

employ of the California Oilfields Limited, as foreman of their machine shops, and in August, 1913, when the Shell Company purchased the Oilfields holdings, he continued with the new owners in the same capacity, being in full charge of the mechanical department, a place of responsibility he fills to everyone's satisfaction. His years of experience with different companies, and knowledge of human nature and the world in general, make his services everywhere appreciated.

At Parkersburg, W. Va., Mr. Tangney was married to Miss Helen Gilbertsen, a native of New York State, and a lady who has likewise endeared herself to all who know her. He is an active member of the Oilfields Club, of which he has been both a trustee and its president.

FRANK V. RODRIGUES.—A man of strict integrity who by hard work and frugal living has become the owner of a well-improved ranch of forty acres, five and one-half miles northeast of Kingsburg devoted to raisins and peaches, is Frank V. Rodrigues, who was born on the Island of Pico in the beautiful Azores, on December 24, 1861. When only sixteen years old he crossed the ocean in search of a more promising future; he pushed on across the continent to California and began to work out by the month on farms in the San Joaquin Valley. He would liked to have gone to school again; but he could not, and so had to content himself with his circumstances. He did learn farming and besides he acquired the practical, commonsense business-ways of the western American. For many years he worked out, in both Kings and Fresno counties, and saved as much money as he could.

He married in Fresno County, Miss Mary Enos, then he rented land for several years, and in 1907 bought his present holding of forty acres. On this he has worked intelligently, profiting by past experiences, and at the last harvesting was able to display an area in the highest grade of cultivation. He has built a fine bungalow, good barns and a tank house, and laid out yards and irrigation ditches. As a raisin grower he is counted very successful; and he not only looks well after his own interests, but he enters heartily into the work of the California Associated Raisin Company, of which he is a member.

Mr. and Mrs. Rodrigues have had ten children, and eight are now living, the others having died when they were very young. Minnie is the wife of Frank Pimentel, a rancher near Kingsburg; and the others are Frank, who served in the World War and received his honorable discharge; Annie married Manuel Miguel, and resides on his ranch near Hanford; Tony returned from his service in France, June 10, 1919; Joe; Rosa; Lena; and Clarence. Remembering his own want of a liberal education, Mr. Rodrigues is endeavoring to give them every opportunity for study.

JACOB ZWANG.—A man of ability, energy and enterprise and one of Coalinga's most successful business men is Jacob Zwang, the vice-president and manager of the Crescent Meat Company, and a director of the First National Bank of Coalinga. Jacob Zwang was born in Baden, Germany, in 1879, and received his early education in the schools of his native country. At the early age of sixteen he emigrated to the United States, locating in Tulare County, where he continued his schooling at Visalia. After leaving school he learned the butcher's trade while in the employ of M. Levy, and when the shop was moved to Laton, Fresno County, Mr. Zwang became a partner of Mr. Levy who opened the first shop in the place.

In 1905, Mr. Zwang, accompanied by M. Levy and his son Albert, moved to Coalinga, where they purchased the Crescent Meat Market, from Kreyenhagen Brothers, and in 1906 incorporated the business as the Crescent Meat Company, Mr. Zwang becoming vice-president and manager, a position he has since held. Under the able and efficient management of Mr. Zwang the business has greatly increased; the company remodeled the building, built a large cold-storage plant with a three and a half ton ice machine, and have



H. Adams & Wife

also built a modern slaughter house one and a half miles from the city. The Crescent Meat Company conducts a large and extensive wholesale and retail business and in addition is raising cattle and sheep, and buying and shipping cattle, hogs and sheep. They maintain a large ranch in the mountains for pasturing the cattle and sheep. In 1912, Mr. Zwang helped to organize the Hays Cattle Company which is extensively engaged in raising cattle in Arizona, on the Company's ranch near Prescott, and he is the secretary of the organization. Mr. Zwang is financially interested in several oil companies, and was formerly one of the directors of the Bank of Coalinga before it was consolidated with the First National Bank, of which he is now a director.

Jacob Zwang was united in marriage with Miss Maude Wagner, of Parkfield, Monterey County, Cal., the ceremony being solemnized at San Francisco, and they have two children: Darrell and Herman. Fraternally, Mr. Zwang is a member of the Odd Fellows, and is Past Grand of the Coalinga Lodge; he is a member of the Encampment at Hanford, and of the Rebekahs, also a member of the Eagles and of the Coalinga Chamber of Commerce. The career of Jacob Zwang is an illustration of what can be accomplished in California by young men of good character, even without means, who are industrious and exercise prudent thrift and wise forethought in the management of their affairs, and who possess an abundance of self-confidence and a determination to succeed.

H. A. ADAMS.—A well-educated, self-made man who has become successful in business and as a financier, and representing by direct descent one of the great American families long identified with the political history of the United States, is H. A. Adams, a member of the distinguished Colonial family of our country, whose ancestors flourished in and came from the Mother Country, England. He was born at Parkersburg, W. Va., on January 9, 1867, the son of James W. Adams, a prosperous farmer there, who first saw the light in what was then Virginia, but has now become West Virginia. The grandfather, Robert Adams, was a coal baron, a pioneer oil operator, and a proprietor of salt-wells and salt-works on the Ohio River, and also owned a line of Ohio River steamboats. He lived to be ninety-nine, and died in full possession of his faculties. He married Sarah Waggener, and both of them were of English Cavalier stock.

James W. Adams married Elizabeth Ellis of New York State, who lived to be sixty-nine. He came to California in 1887, with his wife and two children, after first living in Saline County, Mo., for eighteen years. They moved to Missouri from West Virginia when our subject was only three years old; and seven years later he and his mother, with a brother and a sister went back to the scenes of their former home. There were only these three children in the family, and they are: Harry, who is city agent for the New York Mutual Life Insurance Company; Herman Ansley, of whom we are writing in detail; and Hattie, the widow of Fred Eaton, the former store-keeper at Burrell, now a resident of Fresno.

Herman A. attended the county schools in his home district, and the high school of Saline County, as well as the Normal at Warrensburg, Mo., and the Missouri State University at Columbia, from which he was graduated in 1888 with the degree of Ph.D., having received in all four diplomas for his studies and learning. This pursuit of knowledge called for some sacrifice, however; for while his parents moved and were settling in California and Fresno, the young man remained behind in Missouri to finish his education.

Arriving in Fresno, Mr. Adams went to work for the Valley Lumber Company, and was sent to Caruthers, where he became the resident manager. He worked for the Valley Lumber Company in all eight years; and during this time he was married to Miss Jean Forsyth, a native of Scotland. In July, 1897, he bought out a store in Caruthers and conducted a general merchandise business there until 1914. In 1900 he bought his first ranch of 303

acres north of Burrel, and improved it with houses and a large barn. Soon after, he bought 177 acres and improved that property, also. He purchased the section he is at present most identified with about twelve years ago.

In 1914, Mr. Adams sold his store and moved to Los Angeles, where he bought a fine residence at 1130 West Thirty-seventh Street, intending to reside there, but in June, 1918, when food was needed in the World War, he returned to the soil, rolled up his sleeves, and became a real producer, thus patriotically helping his country. While at Caruthers, he built a residence, garage and store-building, and the two former he still retains.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Adams: Jessie, Georgia, Howard and James, who are living to honor the family name; and a babe who died in infancy. Mr. Adams knows everybody in the South Central part of Fresno County, and he and his wife are widely known and highly esteemed.

WILLIAM H. DILLIN.—A successful and enterprising business man who has contributed his share in the development of California, one who has improved many acres in the Barstow and Empire sections of Fresno County, and at present is busily engaged in looking after his highly improved ranch and vineyard on Madera Avenue, is William H. Dillin. A native of the Hawkeye State, W. H. Dillin, was born at Marengo, Iowa County, Iowa, July 6, 1860. His father, Thomas Dillin, a native of Knox County, Ohio, settled in Iowa before there was any railroad in his section of the state.

During the Civil War, Thomas Dillin raised a company of volunteers, of which he was commissioned the captain, the company being attached to the Twenty-eighth Regiment, Iowa Volunteer Infantry. Thomas Dillin was a millwright and carpenter by trade and was the owner of two flour mills in Iowa.

In 1881, he migrated with his family to Orange County, Cal., where he built a flour mill at Olive, which he conducted for seven years under the name of Dillin and Company. After selling the mill he removed to Los Angeles where he resided until his death. Mrs. Dillin was Hester Ann Wilson, before her marriage, a native of Indiana, her death occurring at Los Angeles, in 1892. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Dillin were the parents of six children, five of whom grew to maturity, and are living: Curtis A., resides in Los Angeles; Tilcus R., lives on the old home place in Iowa; John I., resides in Los Angeles; William H., of this review; and Mary R., who is now Mrs. Geo. H. Weitz, of the Empire district.

William H. Dillin followed in his father's footsteps by learning the trade of a miller. In 1881, he accompanied the family to Orange County, Cal., where he assisted his father in the operation of a flour mill at Olive until the mill was sold. Afterwards, in partnership with his brother J. I. Dillin, he was engaged in the grain commission business for two years in Los Angeles, being located on Los Angeles Street, and doing business under the caption of Dillin Brothers. William H. Dillin decided to engage in farming and with his brother, purchased a ranch of 320 acres in San Diego County, near Otay, where for four years he operated the ranch. His next business enterprise was in Los Angeles where, with his brothers C. A. and J. I., he built a planing mill at Sixth Street and Central Avenue, known as the Arcade Planing Mill. The mill was successfully operated by the Dillin Brothers for eight years during which time they built up a large business, employing at times as high as fifty men. After the mill was sold W. H. Dillin spent one year in Canada, and while there purchased a ranch ninety-five miles north of Calgary, disposing of it during the same year. Mr. Dillin returned to California, this time locating in Fresno County, where he purchased 160 acres in the Barstow colony in 1905. After improving the ranch by planting eighty acres to alfalfa, and the remaining eighty to a vineyard and an orchard, he sold it in 1911, after which he spent some time in Los Angeles and San Diego. It was in October, 1916, that Mr. Dillin returned to Fresno County, when he purchased

his present place of forty-six and a half acres on Madera Avenue. He has brought this property up to a high state of cultivation, thirty-six acres being devoted to a vineyard of Thompson seedless grapes. In addition to this ranch Mr. Dillin is the owner of valuable business property in Fresno, a ranch at Otay, and real estate in San Diego.

On June 25, 1916, William H. Dillin was united in marriage with Clara Belle Flor, a native of Fremont, Nebr., the ceremony being solemnized at San Diego. Mr. Dillin is greatly esteemed for his high ideals of business integrity, courteous and genial manners, which have won for him a large circle of warm friends. He is an enthusiastic member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

CARL O. ERICKSON.—A reminder of the important contribution made by Sweden to the developing of America, and particularly through the intelligence, industry and special adaptability of her steady-going sons and daughters, to the success of one or another department of agriculture, is offered in the life story of Carl O. Erickson and his brother who live on a ranch two and a quarter miles north of Kingsburg on Grant Avenue. He was born at Askesund, Sweden, on February 13, 1872, the son of Gustav Oscar and Sophia Matilda (Person) Erickson, who married and died in their native country, the parents of six children, four of whom are still living. The other sons are Emil Erickson, who was born in June, 1870, in Sweden and is now Carl's partner, and Hugo Valentine and John August Erickson, both of whom live in Sweden. Carl grew up in Sweden on the little farm of his father's, there attended the district schools, and was confirmed in the Lutheran Church.

Emil was the first to break away from home and country and to come to America, and in 1901 Carl sailed from Göteborg, and landed in New York City in November. He soon came through to Chicago, and there he remained for a year and a half. If he did not immediately see his goal, he profited by his environment to get rapidly acquainted with the characteristics of American institutions.

In 1903 Mr. Erickson continued West and reached California, accompanied by Emil; and since then the two brothers have pooled their interests and worked hand in hand. Three years later they bought their present forty acres, sixteen acres are planted to peaches, three and a half to Thompson seedless, eight to Sultanas, eight to Muscats, while four acres are given up to yard, a drying yard, etc. The Erickson brothers belong to and heartily support the work of both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

Mr. Erickson is a member of the Swedish Methodist Church at Kingsburg, and with his brother, bought liberally of liberty bonds and otherwise supported the War work. In civic matters, also, they endeavor to give their votes and support only to the best men and the best measures.

WILLIAM BECKER.—California could scarcely have become the renowned Golden State had it not been for the high character and unselfish toil of her citizens, among whom we mention William Becker, the assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Riverdale, who came to Fresno first in 1904. Mr. Becker was born at St. Helena, Napa County, Cal., on November 2, 1886, the son of A. C. Becker, a native of Germany, who came to California and set up as a merchant in St. Helena. He died when William was only three years old. Mrs. A. C. Becker was Charlotte Smith before her marriage, and after she became a widow she married William Rennie. He was engaged in mining quicksilver at St. Helena, being associated with his brother, James Rennie. As William Becker grew up, he was seized with a desire to become a mining engineer, as there was a great deal of profitable mining at St. Helena.

In 1904 the step-father moved near the City of Fresno with his family, where he became manager of the great Barton Vineyard Company, Ltd. The lad was given an opportunity of attending the high school, and after grad-

uation he went back to the quicksilver mines of St. Helena and engaged to work, for his uncle; but the price of quicksilver had fallen to such a point that its mining was unprofitable. So he came back to Fresno County and worked with his step-father at the Barton Vineyard. There was a still for making brandy, and Mr. Becker was detailed to tend the still, but as this seemed without a future it was not to his liking, and led him to take a graduate course in business at the High School.

At first he accepted a clerkship in the First National Bank at Fresno in 1909, which he held until December 2, 1911, when he became both a stockholder and a clerk in the bank at Riverdale, which was then a state bank. He saved his money, and when Homer J. Hoyt of the First National Bank of Riverdale moved away, Mr. Becker was able to buy a considerable portion of Hoyt's stock in that bank. Since then he has risen from clerk to assistant cashier, where his thoroughness and accuracy have helped to make it one of the best banks in the county.

Mr. Becker was married at Hanford to Miss Mena Maude Parker of Fresno. They have two children: Evelyn Ellen and William James. They have built an up-to-date bungalow, and it is one of the most attractive homes in Riverdale. Mr. and Mrs. Becker are members of the Episcopal Church at Fresno, and Mr. Becker belongs to the Riverdale lodge of Odd Fellows.

AUGUST JOHNSON.—An old-timer with a varied and exceedingly interesting history, and a pioneer who ever deserves the esteem and good will of fellow Californians, since he has done much to develop, improve and advance the neighborhoods in which he has cast his lot, is August Johnson, who was born in Sundsvoll, Sweden, the outlet of a lumber manufacturing country and an important seaport, on October 4, 1857. He was once prominent in the work of sinking oil wells, and was quite as well known in the equally great work of distributing and setting out nursery cuttings for vineyards.

His father was John Johnson, a native of Vennland, who was a lumberman and a millwright, and was engaged in saw-milling, and he was married in his home-region to Amalia Aaronson. The father died in 1876, and the mother ten years before. They had five children, among whom the subject of this interesting sketch is the third oldest, and also the only one now living.

August was brought up in his native country, was educated at the public schools, and was an apprentice to the millwright trade. In 1881 he came to Wisconsin, and was employed in that state as a lumberman, continuing the same line of work in Minnesota. The next year he decided to push still further West, where the climatic conditions were more attractive, and he came to Fresno County, Cal. After three months, not finding just the employment he desired, he went North to Oregon and Washington, and for a couple of years labored in the mills, turning out lumber. In 1884 he returned to Fresno.

Having great faith in the future of Central California, Mr. Johnson bought fourteen acres in Washington Colony, where he set out a vineyard, and as soon as possible, he bought twenty acres more, arranging the whole in as fine a vineyard as could be seen for miles around. In 1903, however, he sold this and moved to what is now the McKinley district and Johnson Avenue, where he improved forty acres. He not only laid out a fine vineyard, but he set out a good peach orchard; and this he conducted for four years when, in 1907, he parted with it at a sale. It was then that he bought twenty acres of the Richland tract, which he managed until 1918 when he sold it and purchased twenty acres on Valentine and California avenues, four miles west of Fresno. There he had a display of Thompson seedless grapevines, Sultanas, and Muscats, the whole forming one of the most desirable of small ranches. He is an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company, having always been identified with raisin association movements.



Frank Lauridsen.



Kirstine Lauridsen

In February, 1900, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Mathilda Carlson, a native of Linköping, Sweden, who had come to California in 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson are among the most popular of Swedish-Americans. In politics they are Republicans, but never allow party allegiance to stand in the way of a hearty endorsement of all worthy movements for local reform and improvement. They attend the Swedish Mission Church.

As illustrating Mr. Johnson's activity as a pioneer, it may be recorded that in early days he bought a well-boring rig, in association with a partner, and in 1885 alone sunk fifteen wells—a considerable number for that period. He also put up windmills when they were a novelty, set out vineyards and contracted for nursery cuttings. In one year he contracted to bud 750,000 cuttings of Muscat slips. In the spring of 1896, he tried his luck at mining at Cook's Springs, Alaska; took along some dried fruit that he sold at a profit and which helped pay expenses. In December, 1918, he sold his ranch and bought a house and lot in Fresno, on 323 Effie Street. In the spring of 1897, Mr. Johnson made a trip back to Sweden to visit old scenes and the fair at Stockholm, but returned to Fresno, more satisfied than ever that he had taken up his home here.

FRANK LAURIDSEN.—A liberal-minded, large-hearted gentleman of kindly disposition, who has become well-posted in producing raisins and has greatly aided in the development of the viticultural interests of the County, is Frank Lauridsen, a native of Denmark. He was born in Vardo, Jylland, on April 27, 1868, the son of Laurid Jepsen, a farmer, who married Miss Maren Hansen. She died in 1874, when Frank, who was the youngest in the family, was six years old, leaving seven children. The lad was brought up on a farm and educated at the public schools.

When twenty-two years of age, Frank was seized with a desire to seek his fortune in the New World; so, leaving the scenes of his boyhood, he migrated to America and the Golden State, and arrived in Fresno County in April, 1890. Here he secured employment in a vineyard in Central Colony, and being industrious and thrifty, and determined some day to own a vineyard, he made his first purchase of land in 1893, when he bought ten acres, and a year later bought another vineyard of the same size. In 1900, however, Mr. Lauridsen sold his twenty acres and leased a forty-acre vineyard on Madison Avenue, where he engaged in viticulture, experimenting successfully for four years.

In the meantime, Mr. Lauridsen had purchased his present holding of fifty acres of raw land on White's Bridge Road, three miles west of Fresno, which he improved by setting out forty acres to vines and bordering his vineyard with Thompson seedless grapes. He set out muscat, sultana and Thompson grapes, and made of the whole a very handsome property. The residence and other buildings are picturesquely situated in an orange grove. In addition to this holding, Mr. Lauridsen owns a forty-acre alfalfa ranch in the Manning district, equipped with a pumping-plant for irrigation.

Mr. Lauridsen was united in marriage, in 1905, with Miss Christine Jensen, a native of Ribe, Denmark, the ceremony being solemnized in Fresno, to which city Miss Jensen, who has since proven such a delightful and helpful companion, came in 1901. A daughter, Mabel, has come to them.

A member of both the Dania and the Danish Brotherhood, and an ex-president of the latter society, Mr. Lauridsen also belongs to the Lutheran Church. He has been a member of all the different raisin associations since the first one promoted by M. Theo. Kearney, and is now a member and a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company. Known as an enterprising and successful business man, and one always interested in the upbuilding of Fresno County, Mr. Lauridsen is also highly esteemed for his honesty and integrity.

STEPHEN FRANCIS MOONEY.—A highly-respected worker in the oil fields, who brought with him from the East the accumulated and valuable experience of years of successful work in the oil districts there, is Stephen Francis Mooney, a native of Clarion County, Pa., where he was born on May 1, 1864. His father, Stephen Mooney, was an oil operator and producer in that county and died in Pennsylvania on October 3, 1917. Mrs. Mooney was Mary Dormor before her marriage, and she died in the same place forty years ago, the mother of five children, four of whom,—three boys and a girl—are still living. One of the sons, J. B. Mooney, resides in Coalinga.

Stephen was brought up in Clarion County and there educated at the public schools; and until he was twenty-one, he assisted his father. Then, for four years, he was dressing tools with a contractor of oil wells, after which he worked as a driller. He next engaged in contract drilling for the Southern Pennsylvania Oil Company in West Virginia, when he returned to Armstrong County, Pa., and was a driller with the People's Natural Gas Company.

In 1907, on account of his daughter's health, he came to Coalinga and was in the employ of W. M. Graham, on Section 6, and then he was a driller on Section 2. He was next with James Robertson, of the Azores Oil Company in Jacolitos Canyon, and after that for nine months was foreman in charge of the drilling for the Boychester Oil Company. In 1910, he entered the service of the California Oilfields, Ltd., and as a driller he has continued with them and their successors in California ever since. He is now the oldest driller on this lease and no one has a more creditable record.

While in Harmony, Butler County, Pa., August 4, 1885, Mr. Mooney was married to Miss Belle Hunter, who was born in Blair County, Penn., but reared in Butler, daughter of David and Frances (Law) Hunter, of old Pennsylvania stock. Mr. and Mrs. Mooney have six children: Edna is Mrs. Loges of Dinuba; Esther has become Mrs. Vass, of Los Angeles; Ruth is Mrs. Davisson of Oilfields; and Helen, Kenneth and Edward are at home.

No one takes a healthier interest in politics than does Mr. Mooney, who follows the Democratic banner in national affairs, and joins his fellow-citizens in local projects and works for the best men and the best measures, irrespective of party lines, thus striving as a model citizen for the bettering of the country.

F. C. GIBSON.—A progressive rancher and dairyman, and an honored trustee of the Grant School district, is F. C. Gibson, located three miles west of Laton. Not only is he a scientific farmer and dairyman, but he is an expert blacksmith and mason, has a forge on his farm and does brick masonry, cementing, and blacksmithing for the local corporation. In 1914 he bought his home ranch of forty acres; and now he runs a dairy of twenty-one cows. He was born on February 16, 1867, in Grant Township, Boone County, Iowa, the son of Franklin Christopher Gibson, a farmer and a Union soldier in the Civil War. While a young man the father had come to Boone County and there married Miss Martha Walker, a native of Pennsylvania. Grandfather Abraham Walker and his wife and family drove across the plains with ox teams.

Our subject was only nine when his mother died at thirty-two years of age, and his father passed away in Iowa, in his thirty-eighth year. His parents had nine children, and F. C. was the oldest son, and a twin with a brother who died. He had three sisters older than himself. He had small opportunity for an education, for when his mother died, the family broke up. The five children were put out separately, F. C. being indentured to C. C. Keigley, a large farmer. He had to work hard, and at times suffered abuse. At the end of three years, he went to work for Keigley's brother and continued with him for a couple of years, receiving somewhat better treatment. He thus labored for other folks until he was twenty-two.

While in Iowa, on March 6, 1907, Mr. Gibson was married to Miss Lucy Jones, a native of Boone County, and a daughter of David and Lucinda (Dyer) Jones, the father being a Kentuckian by birth and the mother a native of Indiana. In that state her parents had been married, and from there, in the pioneer days, they had moved to Boone County.

In November, 1907, Mr. and Mrs. Gibson came to the Laguna de Tache, and now they own forty acres, for some years under his control, while they have just contracted for another forty, across the road to the east. They have one child, John Albert, whom they seek to guide to the most useful and honorable maturity. Mr. Gibson was so long denied the advantages of a good home that it is only natural he should wish to do everything he can for his son. A mother's love and father's protection were denied him, and he was compelled to work beyond his strength. Grandmother Walker, who was born in Pennsylvania, like her husband lived to be past eighty years of age. The Walkers came of Scotch-Irish stock; the Gibsons, of the Pennsylvania Dutch. They became early settlers of both Indiana and Iowa, and deserve honorable mention in the annals of more than one township.

One of the honors Mr. Gibson has greatly appreciated has been his election to the school trusteeship already referred to. In that office he has been active for those educational opportunities which he himself never enjoyed, and which, indeed, few of his generation had placed at their disposal, as have the American boy and girl of today.

MRS. MARY F. KUCKENBAKER.—A good woman who has reared her family to lead honored lives, is Mrs. Mary F. Kuckenkaker, the widow of the late Charles Frederick Kuckenkaker, the well-known Laton pioneer, and who resides at the old Kuckenkaker ranch of fifty acres five miles west of Laton, in comparative retirement, enjoying quietly the old pioneer house which was added to, from time to time and in happier years, to meet the exigencies of a new country and a growing family. Her home, though simple and old-fashioned, is very cosy, and easily reveals the presence of an experienced and careful housekeeper. It was her lot to lose a noble son in the World War, and not long ago the companion for many years of her joys and sorrows also passed away.

Beloved, however, by her children, of whom she has good cause to be proud, and highly esteemed by all who know her as a neighbor and a friend, Mrs. Kuckenkaker still has much to make her cheerful and happy.

She was born in Cedar County, Mo., about sixteen miles west of Stockton, the county seat, of parents who came to that state from Virginia. They pitched their tent in Cedar County, and were among its earliest settlers. Her father was J. C. Beydler, and he married Eliza Gouchenour who came, like himself, of German ancestry. Indeed, the grandparents of both families came from Germany and settled in Missouri about two years before the outbreak of the Civil War, after which they moved to Illinois. This change was necessary owing to their sympathy with the anti-slave movement. At the close of the war, however, they returned to Missouri, where the parents had homesteaded, and there our subject grew up. While in Missouri she was married to Mr. Kuckenkaker, a native of Germany, who was reared and educated in Missouri, and who was only eight years old when his parents came to America; and years after her marriage, she came, in June, 1897, to California.

Seven of Mr. and Mrs. Kuckenkaker's children were born in Missouri, while the two youngest were born in California. Effie Elsie Lee, the eldest, died in Missouri when she was two years, seven months and fourteen days old. John Noah, a rancher, married Miss Grace Sands, of Laton, and owns a ranch near that town, and has been very successful, and having no children

of his own, he is rearing an orphan boy, known as Russell Kuckenbaker, whom he adopted and who is now in the grammar school. George owns two ranches west of Laton, and shares the fruits of his labors with his good wife, who was Hattie Sands before her marriage, and is the mother of three children—Harold, Elnora and a baby boy. Josie is the wife of Guy Whitney; they have two children, Esther and Dorothy, and they own eighty acres near Laton. Clyde married Alice Cummings of that town, and resides near-by, a rancher, the father of two children, Homer and Wilbur. Crafton is a farmer owning twenty acres and renting 200 acres of the Hancock Ranch, and he married Amanda Bristol, by whom he has had one baby, Virginia. Lester Emery enlisted in the service of his country, and died at the Rocky Ford aviation school near San Diego, on March 8, 1917, unmarried, in his twenty-first year. Isaac Nathan, nineteen years of age, works on a ranch but is included in the honor roll of the draft. Olen Howard, the ninth and youngest born, is seventeen years old and is at home.

It was about the beginning of this century when Mr. Kuckenbaker bought the fifty acres which his widow now rents to a resident tenant, and which is a part of the famous Laguna de Tache grant; and about 1912 he went to Old Mexico and bought some 300 acres of land to which he expected to bring his family when the revolution there had ceased. He was driven out, however, with five hundred other Americans and arriving at Missouri, was vaccinated. Tragic to relate, blood-poisoning set in; his arm turned black, and he who had so long labored as an exemplary American citizen, valuable to every community in which he had lived and toiled, fell a victim to a disorder that has long been a blot on North American civilization. On June 8, 1912, he passed away, in his sixty-fifth year.

In addition to the desirable estate five miles west of Laton, and south of the Riverdale and Laton Road, now known as Mt. Whitney Avenue, Mrs. Kuckenbaker owns 120 acres in Cedar County, Mo., and this property is also managed with characteristic good judgment.

H. PROODIAN.—An enterprising and progressive viticulturist, the owner of a most desirable ranch of forty acres of land devoted to the raising of various varieties of grapes, together with some fig trees, is H. Proodian, a native of Mesopotamia, Armenia, where he was born in Diarbekr, December 1, 1866. He was reared and educated in his native land, and after remaining there about twenty-two years migrated to the United States of America, in the year 1888, locating at Hoboken, N. J., where he secured employment in a silk mill, continuing with the factory sixteen years.

In 1904 Mr. Proodian came to California, where the following year he purchased twenty acres of land, near Lone Star. Since 1911 he has owned and operated, with splendid results, his excellent ranch of forty acres, where he now resides, four and one-half miles west of Sanger, in Fresno County. He constructed a fine residence in 1917, and made many other improvements on his ranch. The irrigation system that supplies water for irrigating his crops is especially efficient, and by hard work and intelligent management he has made a splendid success of his ranch.

In 1886, in his native country, Mr. Proodian was united in marriage with Miss Tuma Chankalian, who is also a native of Armenia. This union has been blessed with six children: Roxie, Mrs. Soligian, who has three children; Simpat, "Pat" for short, who served in the United States Army seventeen months, seeing service in France in the One Hundred Sixty-fourth Company, Forty-first Division; Annie, Mrs. Garobedian, who has three children; and Minnie, May and Dickranoohe. After his son returned from his army service, Mr. Proodian bought eighty acres of land and gave it to him for a home. The family are members of Trinity Church in Fresno.

Mr. H. Proodian is regarded as a progressive agriculturist. He is a member of California Associated Raisin Company and is particularly interested in the upbuilding of the best interests of viticulture in Fresno County.



H. Proodian

HENRY OAKLEY STOWELL.—A native son who is proud of the progress of the state of his birth, is Henry Oakley Stowell, whose success is the more creditable in the light of the limited advantages afforded him in earlier years. He was born at Santa Maria on October 25, 1891, the son of E. H. Stowell, who married Emma Oakley, a native daughter now deceased and a member of an old family long and honorably figuring in the histories of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. E. H. Stowell was born in Placerville, and his wife first saw the light near Sacramento. The parents were married at Santa Maria, where Mr. Stowell had a ranch on which our subject and his four brothers and a sister grew up. Four of these six children are now living.

When he was eleven years old, Henry O. came to Guernsey, Kings County, and there he lived a year. He also spent a year at Lemoore, and six years at Laton, three years at Riverdale, and two years at Red Bluff. While at Riverdale, Mr. Stowell was married to Miss Gladys Smith, daughter of C. A. Smith, the cashier of the First National Bank of Laton. One child, Raymond C., has come to them.

Before he was twenty-one years old, Mr. Stowell began to rent, and now he runs 140 acres and some pasture as well in the hills. He keeps 150 head of high-grade cattle there, and half of the herd belongs to him. This is Mr. Stowell's second year on the place, and he has certainly produced results. In addition to other property, he owns half an interest in 100 hogs, and ten horses and wagons, and a full complement of farming tools.

Mr. and Mrs. Stowell have a live interest in civic affairs, working with the Democratic party in national politics, but they are non-partisan in local affairs. They are much interested in Laton and vicinity, and predict a wonderful future for Fresno County.

JOHN H. STRANAHAN.—The efficient foreman of the Homestead Development Oil Company at Coalinga, John H. Stranahan, is a native of the Empire State, born at North Kortright, Delaware County, N. Y., on February 28, 1863, a son of William and Fannie M. (Schemerhorn) Stranahan, who were both natives of the same state. William Stranahan is of Scotch descent; the family lineage is traced back to the Strachn Clan of Strachn Parish, Kincardineshire, Scotland, the name in latter generations having been changed to Stranahan. John H. Stranahan's grandmother's name was McCauley, also of Scotch descent, she being a relative of General McClelland.

William Stranahan was a farmer by occupation and removed from New York to Warren County, Pa., where he passed away. His wife in maidenhood was Fannie M. Schemerhorn, a native of New York state and of old Knickerbocker stock—a lineal descendant of Jacob Schemerhorn, who came to New York in very early days from Holland, bringing his own ship and cargo of merchandise. He died upon his arrival, however, and the ship and cargo were sold and the money invested in lands on Manhattan Island, but the fortune accumulated from the investment has never been received by the descendants.

Mr. and Mrs. William Stranahan both passed away in Pennsylvania and of their six children J. H., the subject of this review, is the oldest. He was reared near Albany, N. Y., at the foot of the Catskill Mountains, and when eight years of age accompanied his parents to Spring Creek, Warren County, Pa., where he was educated in the public schools. J. H. Stranahan was seventeen years old when his father died and to help in the support of the family he worked in saw mills and on a farm. His next occupation was in connection with the oil industry, where at first he learned to dress tools, afterwards becoming foreman of one of the Standard Oil Company's properties in the oil fields of Western Pennsylvania. In November, 1909, J. H. Stranahan came to Coalinga, Cal., where he became driller for Marvin Corey, contractor, afterwards he served in the same capacity for Jim Shreves; later he was

with the British Consolidated Oil Company, which is now known as the Coalinga Star, and with this company he was engaged from 1910 to 1916 as lease foreman. At present Mr. Stranahan is the lease foreman for the Homestead Development Oil Company, on section 12-20-14, and through his able management the company is operating fourteen of their sixteen oil wells. Electric motors are used for pumping and most up-to-date methods are used by Mr. Stranahan in operating the lease. He is one of the most popular foremen in this field, being very thoughtful and careful of the welfare of his men and is highly esteemed by all who have business relations with him.

In Cory, Pa., on July 2, 1884, J. H. Stranahan was united in marriage with Evelyn M. Miles, a native of South Ripley, N. Y., and daughter of Calvin and Cynthia A. (Perdue) Miles, natives of Massachusetts and the province of Quebec, respectively. They were farmers in the state of New York and afterwards at Freehold, Warren County, Pa. Mr. Miles died at Tiona, Pa., and his wife passed away at North East, Pa.

Mrs. Stranahan's grandfather, Solomon Miles, a native of Needham, Mass., enlisted in the Revolutionary War at the age of sixteen years and had the distinction of serving under General Washington. He was one of the first settlers of Warren County, Pa., where he took up a claim in the wilderness and lived to the advanced age of ninety-nine years. Her great grandfather, who also bore the name of Solomon Miles, also served in the Revolutionary War.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Stranahan are the happy parents of one child, Frances, who graduated with honor in 1918, at the University of California, and is now doing post graduate work there. She had the honor of winning the Julian Arnold Trophy, in parliamentary debate.

Mr. Stranahan was made a Mason in Coalinga Lodge No. 287, F. & A. M., and is a member of Coalinga Chapter, R. A. M.; is also a member of the Odd Fellows at Sheffield, Pa., where he is a Past Grand, and is affiliated with the M. W. of A. and the K. O. T. M. at Sheffield, Pa., and is a welcome member of the Growlers Club. Fraternally, Mrs. Stranahan is a member of the Tidioute Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, at Tidioute, Pa.; is a member of the Welcome Club at Coalinga, and is very active in Red Cross work. Religiously, Mr. and Mrs. Stranahan are members of the Presbyterian Church, and while residing at Clarendon, Pa., Mr. Stranahan was a member of the borough council and was very active in the upbuilding of the best interests of that borough.

A. A. BAKER.—A man who has had much to do with oil development in the Coalinga field is A. A. Baker, who is descended from an old English family, one of the original ancestors of which, Sir Richard Baker, came to America and was attracted at once to the home of William Penn, whose activities were directed to maintaining peace, and Sir Richard being a member of the Society of Friends allied himself with them. The father of A. A. Baker, Reuben Baker, was a millwright, and enlisted in the Civil War in a Pennsylvania Regiment. In 1876 he came to Shasta County, Cal., farming six miles south of Reading, and then to the Sierra Lumber Company in corners of Tehama and Butte counties. In 1902 he went to the Los Angeles oil fields and engaged in contracting and drilling, remaining there until he retired to his present home near Sanger. The mother was Mary E. Strode, born in Pennsylvania of Scotch descent, a member of the Society of Friends. There were six children, five of whom are living: Margaret, Mrs. Anglin, of Hanford; Aaron Alphonso; Sarah, died in infancy; R. C., of Coalinga; Jas. E., Superintendent Coalinga Petroleum; Minnie, Mrs. Albaugh, of Shasta County.

A. A. Baker was born near Kenneth Square, Chester County, Pa., December 10, 1867, and his youthful days were spent in the public schools there, but in 1876 he came to California and continued his education in the public schools in Shasta; he took up bookkeeping, and became bookkeeper for the

Hollenbeak store at Pittville, Shasta County, until the death of the proprietor. He then bought the store and conducted it under the name of A. A. Baker from 1898 until 1904, when he sold and located in Coalinga. Here he associated himself with his father and brothers R. C. and J. E., and leased eighty acres of land in 23-20-14, and sunk the first producing well at less than eight hundred feet. The company was called the Coalinga Western, and later was consolidated with St. Paul-Fresno which company also controlled eighty acres, making 160 acres by the consolidation—the company name was St. Consolidated—and A. A. Baker was superintendent from the founding of the original Coalinga Western. He was one of the organizers of Coalinga Petroleum Company with his brothers and two others, and developed eighty acres in Section 14-20-14, of which his brother, J. E., is the superintendent.

Mr. Baker was married in Fall River, Shasta County, to Bertha L. Neat, a native of Tehama County, Cal. They have four children: Mary, Aaron, Harland and Ruth. Mr. Baker is a member of Fall River Lodge No. 304, I. O. O. F., and is a Past Grand and has been Representative to the Grand Lodge; with his wife is a member of the Rebekahs. For many years he was a school trustee of Claremont District, Fresno County, and a part of this time was clerk. He is a member of the Society of Friends, and in politics a strong Republican.

JOHN B. SIMERLY.—Judge Simerly, the able Justice of the Peace at Laton, is a native of Eastern Tennessee, born at Hampton, Carter County, April 20, 1859, a son of Elijah and Mary (Hampton) Simerly, the mother being a distant relative of Gen. Wade Hampton, of South Carolina; the father was for several terms the sheriff of Carter County, Tenn. Elijah Simerly was opposed to slavery. It is interesting to note that Carter County raised more than one thousand soldiers for the Union Army, during the Civil War, and that the Simerly family was one of the most loyal in the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Elijah Simerly were the parents of thirteen children, eleven of whom grew to maturity, Judge John B. Simerly being the seventh child. He attended the grammar and high schools at Milligan College, Tenn., and also pursued a college course at Milligan College. He was reared on the farm of his father who was an extensive landowner and stockman in Eastern Tennessee.

When he was twenty-five years of age, John B. Simerly was united in marriage with Miss Rhoda A. Smith, daughter of James G. Smith, who was at one time surveyor of Carter County, and it was in this county that Mrs. Simerly was born, reared and educated. After his marriage, John B. continued to farm on his father's place until 1902, when he migrated to California and settled at Laton, Fresno County, and has resided there ever since, his ranch being located two miles west of Laton.

Mr. and Mrs. John B. Simerly were the parents of eight children, six of whom are living: Clarence G., a rancher, married Jessie Prather, of Laton, and they have three children: Howard, a mechanic in the Aviation Section of the United States Army in France; Edward, a rancher who married Mary Holmes of Laton, and they have three children; Henry, with the Hospital Corps of the United States Army in France; Robert, also serving his country in France, with a trench mortar brigade; Jesse D., who is attending the Laton high school and is listed in the draft. In 1915, Judge Simerly was bereft of his devoted wife, who passed away at Laton, being fifty-five years of age.

In 1913, John B. Simerly was appointed Justice of the Peace, for the thirteenth township, which territory includes Laton, Laguna and Grant precincts. In 1914, he was elected to the office and has efficiently discharged his duties for five years. In the month of March, 1919, Judge Simerly was married to Mrs. Cora May Spike nee Wilkinson, widow of the late T. G. Spike of Laton.

CHARLES BACON.—A thoroughly posted buyer of fruit in the San Joaquin Valley, Charles Bacon has had the good fortune to grow up with Fresno. He was born in Sampson, Turkey, August 15, 1877, and when eleven years of age came to the United States, with a sister. They came direct to Fresno, which at that time had a population of about seven thousand. The public schools and the Sparrow Business College furnished young Bacon his education, and after he had finished school he went to work on a ranch and continued for eight months at his first job. He then decided to rent some land and work for himself, and leased the El Capitan Vineyard, 160 acres of which were in vineyard, twenty acres in Malagas, and sixty acres in Muscats, while the other eighty acres of the ranch were given over to diversified farming. After several years of successful operation, Mr. Bacon bought the vineyard, and two years later sold off some of it at a good profit. The property has been a large producer, one year yielding 115 tons of raisins, which sold for five and one-fourth cents per pound; and 150 tons of Malagas, which sold for \$3,000.

During the time Mr. Bacon was looking after his own property interests, he was buying fruit for other parties. He organized and conducted the Palagan Fruit Company, and the Star Fruit Company. Fruit and raisins were bought and packed at their packing houses in Fresno. For the past eight years Mr. Bacon has been buying fruit for the Fresno Fruit Growers Company, and his years of experience in that line of industry make him an invaluable man and a successful buyer. During the season, about eight months of the year, he is a very busy man and travels about 135 miles daily, by automobile through the valley.

Mr. Bacon has made a success in life by his own efforts, and believes in progress and development of all industries, and does his best to support such projects. He is the father of three children: Gorkin, Hig, and Zobel.

CECIL FEAVER.—A progressive, industrious rancher near Fowler, who enjoys a desirable popularity and whose wife worthily represents one of the well-known pioneer families of California, is Cecil Feaver, the son of George Feaver, an early settler here who is mentioned elsewhere in this history. Cecil Feaver was born at Wells, in Somersetshire, England, on May 12, 1881, and when only three years of age came out to the country whose resources were to be so favorable to his development, and whose problems were to challenge his noblest and most varied capabilities.

Cecil grew up on his father's farm near Fowler, where his education was limited to the usual public-school courses and to the first year at the Fresno high school. He was thoroughly wide-awake, however, and at the age of nineteen was made foreman for Wylie M. Giffen, president of the California Associated Raisin Company, for whom he planted his large vineyards at Orosi, where in 1905, he set out 106 acres to grapes, and the next year planted another vineyard of 480 acres. After two years of successful experience as foreman, Mr. Feaver, in partnership with his brother, improved 160 acres on shares, and developed the property to a high degree. This was owned by J. R. and J. D. Hickman.

Mr. Feaver was married to Miss Abbie Josephine Enas, daughter of Joseph Enas, who was born at Nantucket, Mass., and who went as a sailor before the mast; he sailed around the Horn three or four times, and as Captain commanded one of the ships of his father, Captain Emanuel Enas, whaler and shipowner. After a while, the father came west and bought a ranch in Napa County; and near Napa she grew up. Her father had settled for a while at San Francisco; and he was one of the first mail and water carriers, before that city had a water system, and was a real San Francisco pioneer.

The ranch where Cecil Feaver lives and which he operates is owned jointly by him and his brother John, having been bought by them in 1908.



Cecil Stearns



Mrs. Alice Stearns

It includes sixty acres, choice in every respect, and more than ever improved. The brothers also own 175 acres, set to vines and trees, near Hanford. Besides attending to his other interests, Mr. Feaver also rented for three years some 200 acres belonging to the ranch of Ex-Senator W. F. Chandler at Del Rey, and as usual made a success of the venture.

Mr. Feaver is an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company, the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Apricot and Prune Growers Association. He endeavors under the banner of the Republican party, to promote good citizenship, such as does not place selfish private interests above those of society and the state. He joined the Fresno Home Guards, a war measure, during the progress of the World War.

Four children have blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Feaver: Cecil James is the eldest; Maurice Egbert comes next; and then there are George Elwyn and Floyd Joseph. The family attend the First Presbyterian Church of Fowler. Mrs. Feaver passed to the Great Beyond on April 28, 1919, aged thirty-nine years.

Fresno County has reason to expect much from this advanced agriculturist and public-spirited citizen, and in such thrifty, broad-minded citizenship lies the hope for the future.

CLARENCE G. SIMERLY.—Among the successful ranchers and stockmen of Fresno County located in the vicinity of Laton, especial mention is made of C. G. Simerly, the subject of this review, and owner of a well improved ranch of forty-six acres on Bellevue Avenue, northwest of Laton. He is the oldest living son of Judge J. B. Simerly, of Laton, the Justice of the Peace of Township Thirteen, of Fresno County. C. G. Simerly was born in Carter County, Tenn., June 28, 1886, and came with his parents to California in May, 1902. His early days in the Golden State were spent on his father's farm near Laton, where he assisted him in the work. C. G. Simerly has always been very industrious and through well directed efforts and thrift had saved, by 1909, sufficient money to buy his ranch of forty-six acres, which affords him and his family a good home.

Clarence G. Simerly takes pardonable pride in his family history. In the biography of his father, John B. Simerly, which appears on another page in this volume, it appears that his ancestors for several generations past were influential and prominent in eastern Tennessee and were loyal Union supporters, whose record for courage and patriotism is well sustained by four of our subject's own brothers, in the recent World War. Strong both mentally and physically, the Simerlys are always active for the progress of mankind.

In 1910, C. G. Simerly was united in marriage with Miss Jessie Prather, daughter of James and Laura Prather, who live on one of Jack Gepford's ranches, and they are the proud parents of three children: Clarence Jean, Edith L. Vine, and James Bell. Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Simerly are highly esteemed in their community.

EUGENE WILSON.—An enterprising rancher with a decidedly scientific turn of mind and, like his good wife, a loyal and thoroughly democratic American in both word and deed, is Eugene Wilson, who is at present engaged in dairying and the raising of hogs and poultry, and is also experimenting with cotton and the pickling of cucumbers. He owns and operates a ranch of twenty acres on Mount Whitney Avenue, five miles west of Laton. He was born at Ash Flat, Sharp County, Ark., on December 22, 1875, the son of Reuben Jasper Wilson, a native and a pioneer of Arkansas, who had married Hannah Johnson, who was born in Tennessee. Their folks moved to Kentucky, and from Kentucky to Tennessee; and thence to Arkansas, where the parents married. In 1851, the father crossed the plains with ox teams to California, and mined gold in Amador, Calaveras and Placer counties, from 1851 to 1853; and when he went back to Arkansas in 1854, he married. In

1884, with his wife he came again to California, and settled in Fresno County; and here, a couple of years ago, he died at Hanford, in his eighty-third year. Mrs. Wilson, the mother, lives at Fowler, and two of her sons are also living, while two sons and two daughters are dead.

Eugene Wilson was nine years of age when he first came to Fresno County, and he was reared at Oleander where, for years, his father ran a store. He attended the grammar school of his neighborhood, the Easton high school, and for a term studied at the Stockton College. In 1900, he was married to Miss Mollie Johnson, the ceremony occurring at Hanford. The bride was the daughter of the well-known Tennessean, Benjamin Franklin Johnson, and she was born in her father's state.

This union of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson has been singularly blessed, and nowhere will one find a brighter fireside. Six children have come to them: Vernon, Vaudine, Marguerite, Laura Belle, Woodrow, and William; and all give promise of becoming as great as the first gentleman or the first lady of the land.

Mr. Wilson came to the Laguna de Tache in 1906, and since then, as a loyal Democrat in national politics, but non-partisan in local issues, he has endeavored to promote good citizenship, and to work for the general improvement of Laton and vicinity, as well as of the County as a whole.

WILLIAM S. FISHER.—From among the many successful oilmen of Coalinga, Cal., particular mention is accorded the name of Wm. S. Fisher, who has been the efficient superintendent of the Mercantile Crude Oil Company for more than sixteen years. He was born in Hume, Bates County, Mo., October 11, 1875, and came to Hanford, Cal., with his parents March 7, 1894. His father, William E., as well as his grandfather, Iliff Fisher, were both natives of Michigan. The grandfather crossed the plains to California in that memorable year, 1849, where he engaged in the sawmill business until 1851, when he returned to Michigan. In 1852 he again crossed the plains, this time taking with him a herd of cows. After remaining one year in California he returned to Michigan with the intention of bringing his family to California, but within two weeks after reaching home he passed away. William E. Fisher, the father of the subject of this sketch, was a saw-mill man and at one time a railroad engineer. During the Civil War he enlisted with the Twelfth Regiment, Michigan Volunteer Infantry, and was twice taken prisoner, being confined once in Libby Prison, but was released by being exchanged; afterwards he was a prisoner in Andersonville from which place he escaped. At the end of his gallant service in behalf of his country, he was honorably discharged at Little Rock, Ark.

William E. Fisher was united in marriage with Sarah J. Pierce, a native of Kentucky, daughter of Samuel Pierce, also a native of Kentucky, who settled in Kansas, the ceremony being solemnized in the latter state. After his marriage he settled in Missouri, near Hume, where he purchased 200 acres and engaged in saw milling, later, building a steam flouring mill in Hume which he operated until 1885, when it was destroyed by fire, after which Mr. Fisher returned to farming. On this farm he built a saw and grist mill. In 1892, William E. Fisher took a trip to California and returned east in 1893, but, like thousands of other persons who had once come under the spell of the Golden State's many attractions, her splendid opportunities were too strong for him to resist longer, so in the spring of 1894 he sold out and moved with his family to California, settling at Hanford. The first three years in California, Mr. Fisher ran a threshing machine, and was the first person to operate an alfalfa huller, in the state. After a life of usefulness he passed to his eternal reward on January 27, 1897, his widow still survives him and is residing now at Hanford. Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Fisher were the parents of nine children, William S., the subject of this review, being the fourth child in order of birth. He was reared on the home farm and from a boy made

himself useful learning the rudiments of farming, engineering and milling. He received a good education in the thorough local schools and when eighteen years of age he came to Hanford, Cal., in 1894, where he was employed for four years in the Hanford flouring mill. After the death of his father Mr. Fisher went back East to sell and settle up the estate. Upon returning from the East he came to Hanford where he resumed work in the flouring mill, and by loyal service and untiring efforts he gained the responsible position of head miller, which post he held until December 31, 1901, when he resigned and on January 1, 1902, came to Coalinga where he became associated with the El Capitan Oil Company. One month later he accepted the responsible position of superintendent of the Mercantile Crude Oil Company, and has so satisfactorily filled the position and discharged his duties, that he has retained the office ever since the organization of the company. At the time Mr. Fisher accepted the position of superintendent, the company had only one well, but through his efficient management five more wells have been sunk and all have proved to be producers. With the assistance of his boys Mr. Fisher is engaged in cattle raising and for the purpose leases 2,560 acres adjoining the oil fields where he ranges his cattle, an industry he not only finds very interesting but profitable as well.

On May 23, 1900, William S. Fisher was united in marriage with Cornelia Thomas, a native of Illinois, the ceremony being solemnized at Hume, Mo. This union was blessed with five children, four of whom grew to maturity: Lyle, John J., Robert Glenn, and Walter E.

Fraternally, Mr. Fisher is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, his membership being with the Hume Camp, No. 2346, Hume, Mo., and he has always manifested great interest in educational matters in the community where he resides, having served as a trustee of Alpha School District. Mr. Fisher has been successful in the oil business and is highly esteemed in his community.

HARRY W. BEATTY.—A well-posted and successful oil-well driller, is Harry W. Beatty, who was born in Meadville, Pa., on August 25, 1865, the son of Samuel S. Beatty, who was born in the same state, at Cherry Run, Crawford County, of parents who came from Scotland to Pennsylvania, and since Samuel Beatty was an oil man, the lad was early introduced to the problems of that fast-developing industry. Samuel Beatty owned a farm on Oil Creek, which he sold for oil land, receiving \$175,000 by the sale; but when he came to develop oil on other leases and to contract for drilling, he was not over-successful, although he did a large business. He spent his last days in Pittsburgh. Samuel's wife was Elizabeth Jane Morrison before her marriage, and she was born in Emlenton, Pa., of Scotch-Irish parentage. She spent her last days with her children in California, and died in Los Angeles. Of these seven children, six grew to maturity. One son, Edward, is a driller for the Standard Oil Company at Montebello, Cal.

Harry was the oldest of the family and was reared in the Pennsylvania oil fields, while he was being educated at the public schools. From a boy, therefore, he learned the oil business, and at thirteen years of age hired himself out to a John Conley as a pumper. He also fired the engine and boiler with coal, and so continued for a couple of years in Butler County. When he was seventeen, he began to dress tools, for which purpose he moved to the Bradford oil district, where he remained as a tool dresser for seven years.

After that, Mr. Beatty began to drill oil wells, and soon went to Lima, Ohio, where he was employed for about five years drilling new wells. He next moved to Indiana and made his headquarters at Marion.

In 1900, he came West to California and at Los Angeles went to work for the Russian Oil Company, with whom he continued for a year. In time, he took up with the Murphy Oil Company at Whittier, and worked under Mr. Plotts, in the old Murphy field for two years as a driller. When he re-

signed, he came to Coalinga, in 1904, and worked for William Graham; and when the latter was succeeded by the California Oil Fields, Ltd., he continued with the new proprietors. In 1907 he returned to Southern California and was again busy with the Murphy Oil Company in the Coyote Hills, where he worked on Well No. 1 and later on Well No. 3 for a year; and coming once again to Coalinga, he was in the service of the California Oil Fields, Ltd., for a couple of years; and later he was made driller-foreman—a position of responsibility he has held ever since. In August, 1913, the Shell Company took over the plant, but Mr. Beatty remained in the same capacity for them.

In Los Angeles, on September 4, 1907, Mr. Beatty was married to Miss Minnie Johansen, a native of Troy, N. Y., and the daughter of William Johansen. He was born in Germany, learned the trade of a cabinet maker, was married to Miss Dorothea Schmidt, and came with her to Troy, where he followed his trade. Later he removed to California and died here. Mrs. Johansen still resides in Los Angeles, the mother of three children, among whom Mrs. Beatty is the eldest. Mr. Beatty belongs to the Oilfields Club, and also to the Progressive Republican party.

KNUD MADSEN HANSEN.—A native of Denmark who came to choose America for his future home, and who here, little by little, advanced successfully and in his prosperity helped both himself and the community and state in which he lived, is Knud Madsen Hansen, the well-known rancher of Clovis. He was born in Fredericia, Jylland, on February 18, 1874, and spent his early life in the country of his birth. His father, Jens Hansen, was also a native of Denmark, where he served his country patriotically in both the army and the navy. He was also in the government railway service until his death. He married Dorthea Madsen, and five children were born to them, Knud being the eldest.

Until he was fourteen years of age, the wide-awake lad attended the excellent Danish schools of his locality, and then for several years he worked on a farm. He was not satisfied altogether with the economic conditions of his fatherland; and hearing favorable reports from his uncle, Hans Madsen, who had come to western America and settled at Fresno, he determined to cross the waste of waters and join him.

In 1893, therefore, he arrived in Fresno County; and finding employment at viticulture, he devoted himself to that line for nine or ten years, finally acquiring land for himself, and still studying viticulture. As the raisin industry was fast developing, he gained his knowledge of the work by seeking employment in various Clovis vineyards, until eventually he was made superintendent of the Shepherd & Teague vineyard, a position of responsibility that he held for nearly five years.

In 1902 he purchased a tract of land and set out twenty acres as a vineyard, later buying ten acres adjoining, which he also improved, building a comfortable residence; and here he has since made his home, having sold the original twenty acres. His ranch is highly improved, being devoted to the raising of Malaga grapes, which it produces in abundance and variety.

He was very active and instrumental as one of the organizers, in 1909, of the Clovis Farmers' Union; the original board of directors including, besides Mr. Hansen, J. W. Potter, Sr., J. W. Sharer, H. H. Baker and Charles Westrup. Mr. Hansen was elected General Manager and Treasurer of the corporation and gave the undertaking his best time and efforts, and as a result of which the company became very successful, in time adding to the warehouse they had purchased in Clovis. After four years they sold out to the California Associated Raisin Company, and it became Plant No. 1 of their line of warehouses, and he was chosen superintendent of the Clovis Warehouse—a place he fills most acceptably because he understands every part of the raisin and dried fruit industry. Under his skilled oversight, the bus-



S. M. Hansen



Mrs and Miss W. Bodanien

iness has grown proportionately, and now from forty to eighty hands are required to cure and handle the fruit.

On March 17, 1902, Mr. Hansen and Miss Emma Louise Maas were united in marriage at Fresno. The bride was born in New York State, and came to California with her parents; Mr. and Mrs. Hansen have one son, James. Mr. Hansen was one of the prime factors in starting and organizing the Melvin Grape Growers Association, and now he is the president of its board of trustees. The company has built three warehouses at Melvin, Burness and Glorietta.

Mr. Hansen was made a Mason in Clovis Lodge, F. & A. M., and he is also a member of Clovis Lodge, I. O. O. F., where he is a Past Grand. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World and of the Dania in Fresno.

He has always been an enthusiast in the work of the California Associated Raisin Company and of the Chamber of Commerce. He has won a large circle of friends, who know him as a reliable and upright man of dependable qualities. He is public spirited and liberal, and has always assisted as far as he was able in promoting every movement for the prosperity of his fellow-citizens, voting according to the standards of the Republican party.

B. BORANIAN.—It is necessary in speaking of some men to use the superlative degree. They are of such quality that only the highest terms are adequate to describe them. Their achievements are so great that they occupy a position by themselves. The subject of this sketch is one of these. He is perhaps the most aggressively progressive rancher among the many very prosperous Armenians in the vicinity of Fowler.

Mr. Boranian was born in Armenia, near Harpoot,⁹⁹ a half century ago. His parents were Ohan and Mary (Sarkissian) Boranian. They lived and died in Turkey, victims, as were so many of the race, of the cruelties of the unspeakable Turk. The father branched out in the mercantile business in Constantinople, and the son also went there. He bought out his father's business after he had conducted it for two years, and ran it himself for five years, making a continuous period of seven years in which he and his father were in business in Constantinople. While here Mr. Boranian married his first wife, Sarah Tatian. He prospered in business and one child was born to them in Constantinople. His life was bright and happy, when of a sudden the Turks broke out in a bloody massacre against the Armenians, and he was forced to flee for his life. They burned his store but he escaped to America. His wife, however, was left behind, and the cruelties of the Turks brought on an illness which resulted in her death. She left one child, Dick, who lived with his father until his second marriage, and is now a progressive rancher near Fowler.

Mr. Boranian was twenty-four years of age when he came to America. He engaged in business at Lowell, Mass., for eight years, and in 1902 came with his family to Fresno County. He was married a second time to Mrs. Mary Goolbanian, a widow born near Harpoot, and they were married at Lowell, Mass. She had one child by her first marriage, a girl named Naomi, who is still living at home. They have three children by their present union: Edwin, Joseph and Rosa. Mr. Boranian had \$2,000 when he came to Fresno County, the result of thrift and energy. At first he bought only forty acres. He improved this place and has prospered exceedingly. He now owns two ranches, one of 180 acres, a half mile south and two miles east of Fowler, and the other of 60 acres lying north of Fowler. He resides on the former, with his family, and there he has twenty acres in pasture, yards, etc.; 125 acres in Muscats, fifteen acres in Thompson Seedless, five acres in Emperors, five acres in alfalfa, and ten acres in peaches and apricots. This place is known by the name of the B. Boranian Vineyard. His first crop here brought him only \$400. He is an industrious, progressive and scientific farmer and horticulturist, and is becoming wealthy.

While in his native land, Mr. Boranian received an education equivalent to that of a grammar school in this country. He is a very influential member of the Congregational Church in Fowler, and was one of its first donors. Mr. Boranian may well look with satisfaction upon the results of his work, and take justifiable pride in his home place, as he planted it himself and has brought it to a very high state of cultivation.

ROBERT F. COLLINS.—As rancher, vineyardist and raisin grower, Robert F. Collins, has a well-improved vineyard of thirty-eight acres between North and Center avenues, twelve and a half miles southeast of Fresno. It is a part of the old J. D. Collins ranch. Robert F. Collins is a son of the late J. D. Collins and was born at the old J. D. Collins Dry Creek ranch on April 10, 1888. He attended the old Mississippi School and later, after moving to Fresno when his father was elected sheriff, he attended the Fresno High School from which he was graduated in 1908. He ran cattle for his father in 1909-10 on the Collins' Dry Creek Ranch and then put in a year at the University of California at Berkeley.

In January, 1912, Mr. Collins was united in marriage with Miss Eva H. Sisson, a native of Michigan who was reared in Modesto and Fresno. She is the daughter of F. H. Sisson, manager for the Fresno Agricultural Works at Fresno. She is also a graduate of the Fresno High School.

After his marriage, Mr. Collins began farming and improved the thirty-eight-acre tract given to him by his father. He now has a comfortable bungalow residence, barns, drying-sheds, wells and a pumping-plant with a twenty horsepower engine. Ten acres of the tract are in Thompsons, fourteen acres are in peaches and he raises alfalfa and some grain. The balance is in yards, which he plans to plant to Malagas in the spring of 1920.

Mr. and Mrs. Collins have three children: Robert F., Jr., James Franklin, and William White. Mr. Collins is a Democrat, but is not a politician. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

HUGH FRANCIS CASSIDY.—The able superintendent of the Salvia Oil Company of Coalinga, Cal., is a native of Canada, having first seen the light of day at Trenton, Ont., a port of entry on the Trent, 101 miles east of Toronto. He was born June 29, 1876, a son of Frank J. and Catherine (Finlan) Cassidy, both natives of Ontario who are now living in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Cassidy were the parents of two children, Hugh being the oldest and the only one living in California.

The father, F. J. Cassidy, was a lumberman in Canada and in 1877 removed to Bradford, Pa., when Hugh was about a year old. At Bradford, Mr. Cassidy first became interested in the oil business, afterwards he moved to Lima, Ohio, where he became a contracting driller and later an oil producer. F. J. Cassidy is still engaged in the oil business, having interests both in Kentucky and Ohio.

Hugh F. Cassidy, the subject of this sketch, was brought up in Pennsylvania and Ohio, being ten years of age when the family moved to Lima, Ohio, and it was in that city that he received his early education, having attended both the public and a private school. After finishing school days he began working for his father in the oil business, later he became a contract driller and operated the business of drilling in the Oklahoma fields.

When Hugh F. Cassidy reached his majority his father took him into partnership and they conducted the oil business under the firm name of F. J. Cassidy & Son. In 1910, both came to Coalinga, Cal., where they were employed by the Premier Oil Company, drilling wells. After a time the father returned east but Hugh F. remained at Coalinga where he became gangforeman for the Inca Oil Company, retaining this responsible position for five years. In 1915, Mr. Cassidy became the superintendent for the Salvia Oil Company, which has twenty-one wells on its eighty-acre lease. He has so efficiently conducted the affairs of the company, not only to the satisfaction

of the officials, but in a manner that has met the approval of the employees, that he still retains this important position. Mr. Cassidy is a thoroughly experienced oilman, having been associated with the industry ever since he was a lad and has learned the business from the bottom up and today is regarded as an authority on matters pertaining to the operation and management of an oil well.

Hugh F. Cassidy was united in marriage at Lima, Ohio, with Miss Daisy Tracy, a native of that city and this happy union has been blessed with one child, a daughter, Catherine. Fraternally, Mr. Cassidy is a member of the Knights of Columbus, and also holds membership with the Coalinga Aerie of Eagles and the Growlers Club.

JAMES J. BRISCOE.—The fourth son of R. W. Briscoe, James J. was born in Fresno County on March 4, 1885. He was raised in this county and attended the Malaga grammar school and later Heald's Business College at Fresno. While but a boy, he began driving horses and operating farm machinery and with the advent of the tractor and the truck, he became an adept in the operation of this class of machinery in its practical application to farmwork. When he was drafted into the service in the recent war, he was assigned to the truck service and after two months' training at Camp Lewis, he sailed with his division, the Ninety-first, from New York on July 14, 1918, landed at Liverpool on July 28, and from there went to France. He served through the Argonne Woods campaign and about the middle of October, 1918, was sent to Belgium and did active service there. He was in Belgium at the signing of the armistice. After about nine months' overseas service, he returned with his division, landing at New York City in April, 1919, and was honorably discharged at the Presidio in May. After his return home, he immediately resumed his work on his ranch.

In 1915 four of the Briscoe brothers had bought 160 acres, devoted to raisin and wine grapes, of which J. J. Briscoe owned forty acres at the outbreak of the war. In 1919, three of the Briscoe brothers, bought another 160 acres of vineyard, also in the De Wolf district, and J. J. Briscoe now owns an undivided one-third interest in that.

He is particularly interested in the cultivation of grapes and does a great deal of the work by means of tractors and a G. M. C., two-ton truck.

GEORGE W. DAY.—Among the representative ranchers of Fresno County, an interesting example of what can successfully be accomplished by one with no previous experience is found in the person of George W. Day, local manager and sole representative of an English corporation that owns the Alameda Ranch of 480 acres, situated five miles north of Reedley. Mr. Day is a native of England, born in 1881, and after receiving a good education in his native land became an expert accountant and followed that profession until he came to America in 1913. He soon located in Fresno County, California, and was employed as manager of the Alameda Ranch, that had been acquired by this corporation in 1912, for the ensuing two years. He was wholly inexperienced in raising fruit, but the two years he spent on the ranch soon gave him a working knowledge of the business and he studied every branch of viticulture and horticulture and decided he would own a ranch of his own.

For one year he leased a peach orchard west of Fresno and by applying his experience already gained, and by hard work, he soon made a success of his venture. In December, 1916, he bought thirty acres of second bench land north from Reedley, improved to orchard and vineyard and gave it his personal attention with the result that his net profits in 1918 were \$4,928.78, and it is reported that in the eastern markets the fruit brought twice that amount. The results here shown prove that in ranching, as in other lines of business, a man can succeed if he applies scientific knowledge and methods to his business, and also gives it his undivided attention.

In June, 1918, Mr. Day once more became the manager of the Alameda Ranch, and in this position is working for the interests of his employers with the same earnestness as he worked for himself. The example he has set may well be followed by others who wish to make a success of their ventures.

In England, Mr. Day was united in marriage with Miss Florence Brown, a lady of many accomplishments, who shares with him the esteem of a wide circle of friends. Mr. Day is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company; and in fraternal circles he is a member of the Masons and Knights of Pythias lodges in Reedley. He is an enthusiastic booster for Fresno County and believes that there are better opportunities now than ever before.

CHRISTJAN JENSEN.—Among the residents of the thriving city of Reedley in Fresno County is Christjan Jensen, an expert mechanic of many years' experience in the blacksmithing trade. He has seen many changes in the conditions of the country surrounding Reedley since he located here in 1908, and has proven to his fellow citizens his worth as a man of good, sound business sense, as well as a mechanic of more than usual ability. He was born in Thisted, Denmark, May 17, 1861, the son of Christjan and Nekoline Jensen, both born and raised in Denmark. His father was a blacksmith and while the lad was going to school he spent considerable time in his father's shop and soon became handy with tools. After his school days were over he learned the blacksmith trade and worked for his father for five years. His next step was to join the Danish army and he served three years in the engineering department.

It was after his honorable discharge from service that the young man married, choosing for his wife Miss Anna Kjargard, and with her came to the United States in 1888. He traveled West as far as Chicago and there he worked at his trade, and had a shop of his own, also was for five years in charge of the blacksmith shop of the electrical department of the City of Chicago. In 1908 he came West to California and soon located in Reedley where he opened a shop and carried on his business with success. He also bought a ranch of forty acres northeast of Reedley, twenty acres of which were improved, and later sold the whole place at a profit. He then bought another tract of twenty acres, made all the improvements and this he also disposed of at a profit. He is still owner of two good business lots and five residence lots and a good home near the high school, in Reedley.

In 1906 Mr. Jensen was married a second time, this time to Miss Helen Scholanber, who presides with grace and charm over his home. In 1917 he took a trip back to his native land to review the scenes of his younger days, but came back to Fresno County more than ever pleased that he had cast in his lot here. He is a public-spirited man who supports every movement for the betterment of the county and state of his adoption and no more loyal American can be found than he.

EDWARD JOHNSON.—A young man who has undergone the experience of so many in sacrificing important interests in order to respond to the call of their country in the late war is Edward Johnson, the senior partner in the firm of Johnson Brothers, ranchers, who are renting the Lindquist estates. He was born near Grantsburg, Wis., August 14, 1886, the son of John A. and Betsy (Erickson) Johnson, who were parents of eight children—six sons and two daughters. With the exception of two sons, who are living in Minnesota, the entire family is now in Fresno County, in the vicinity of Kingsburg. Edward, the third child, grew up in Wisconsin; he received a very limited schooling, he worked on his father's farm, and while yet a youth, hired out by the month, after which he made for Minneapolis. There, until he was twenty-six, he was employed in the Pillsbury Flouring Mills.

In that year he removed to Montana, and near Skelley homesteaded 160 acres, which he farmed and proved up and was just about to profit by, as a



H. A. Dunklau
Emma Dunklau

grain and stock farmer, when he was drafted into the American Army, and therefore compelled to sell his Montana interests. It was not easy to part with that which had been acquired through so much hard labor and risk, but the consciousness of duty and its obligation impelled him on and enabled him to come through like a man.

Mr. Johnson served at Camp Lewis for five months, and was then transferred to Vancouver, Wash., having served in the infantry at Camp Lewis and in the aviation in the North. He was honorably discharged on December 23, 1918, and reached his parents' home December 25, 1918, at their ranch in the vicinity of Kingsburg, Fresno County.

At Oakland, on January 2, 1919, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Nellie Rabe, of Portland, Ore.

The farming operations of the Johnson Brothers are carried by our subject and a younger brother, Alvin Johnson, who was also born in Wisconsin, who came out to California in 1918 direct from Wisconsin, where he had worked on a farm.

The ranches operated by the Johnson Brothers are the forty acres of Mrs. Lindquist, the ten acres of Alfred Lindquist, adjoining, and another fourteen acres of Muscats belonging to still another of the same family, three and a half miles northeast of Kingsburg.

HENRY A. DUNKLAU.—A progressive young rancher, whose capable wife, a real and valuable helpmate, represents the family of a successful viticulturist prominent in the community, is Henry A. Dunklau, the viticulturist and horticulturist, who was born at Arlington, Washington County, Nebr. He is a son of Zacharias and Johanna Dunklau, who located in Washington County, Nebr., in 1865, and there homesteaded eighty acres. Later Mr. Dunklau bought property adjoining, until he had 240 acres. He planted it to corn and devoted part of it to the raising of stock; and there he now resides, at the age of eighty-five, while his good wife is seventy-three. Eight children, all living, have risen to bless their worthy name.

The fourth eldest in the family, and the only one in California, Henry was brought up on a farm and attended the public schools. He remained at home helping his father until he was twenty-one, and then he started out for himself, working here and there for others on farms. After a while, his attention was attracted especially to California, and he finally decided to come to the Coast.

In January, 1908, he arrived in Colusa County, and the following spring came to Fresno County. In Temperance Colony he secured employment in vineyards and orchards, and set to work to learn the propagation and culture of grapes, as well as of trees, and also the preparation and leveling of land, and the staking and planting of vines and of trees. Desiring to engage in ranching on his own account, he purchased for the purpose forty acres on Locan near Ventura Avenue, completing the transaction in 1910, and immediately set it out as a vineyard. He improved the acreage, built several needed structures, bought another forty acres, and then sold it at a profit, after keeping it a couple of years.

During 1916, Mr. Dunklau bought his present property of seventy-two acres in the Kutner school district, twelve miles northeast of Fresno, which he has improved and is devoting to a vineyard and an orchard. He has twenty acres of white Adriatic figs, interset with prunes, plums and peaches; two acres of alfalfa, and the balance in different varieties of vines. He has a pumping plant with an eight-horse engine, and a well eighty-six feet deep, in which the water rises to within eight feet of the surface of the ground, thus furnishing ample water for irrigating his ranch. However, his ambition was not satisfied with this, and in partnership with his brother-in-law, Edward Bartels, he purchased forty acres across the county road from his ranch, which they also set out to vines. Mr. Dunklau has greatly enhanced

the value of his home ranch by erecting a large, beautiful modern residence and by giving the grounds and ranch in general such excellent care that it has become known as one of the show places in the district. Believing in the cooperation of fruit-growers, he has always been an enthusiastic member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

At the home of the bride, in Temperance district, on November 22, 1911, Mr. Dunklau was married to Miss Emma Bartels, a native of Fresno and the daughter of Edward and Anna (Steinkamp) Bartels, settlers of Fresno County who are represented on another page in this history. Mrs. Dunklau, the eldest child, attended the public school and Heald's Business College in Fresno, and now has two sons, Henry E. and William E. Dunklau. The family attends the German Lutheran Church in Fresno, Mrs. Dunklau being an active member of the Ladies' Aid Society of the Church, as well as the Jefferson Auxiliary of the Clovis Chapter of the Red Cross. Mr. and Mrs. Dunklau showed their patriotism by giving their time and means towards the different branches of war-relief work, and they are active in all movements for the upbuilding of the community. They are both liberal and hospitable, and fortunate is the individual who is privileged to be entertained by them.

ANDREAS H. ANDERSEN.—A capable and enterprising rancher, Andreas H. Andersen lives on his forty-acre ranch southwest of Reedley. Mr. Andersen was born in Denmark, March 7, 1886, and is the son of Antoni and Marie (Hansen) Andersen. He received a good education in the Danish language. His father died eight years before he left Denmark, and his mother three months before he sailed from Esbjerg via England for the United States. He landed at New York, April 29, 1908, and came directly to California, where he began working on a stock ranch southwest of Selma. He worked on various farms and also as still-man for three seasons under the late John Petersen, foreman of the Parlier Winery. From 1911 until 1917 he rented the Clark & Jones ranch of 160 acres.

In 1915 Mr. Andersen purchased his present property three miles southwest of Reedley. The land was a barley field four years ago, and Mr. Andersen has planted the place and made all improvements. He has 12 acres of Thompson seedless grapes, $7\frac{1}{2}$ acres of Sultanas, 10 acres of Malagas, 300 apricot trees, 250 French prune trees and 90 fig trees on the border. These are all young trees and vines from three years old to the spring planting of 1919.

Mr. Andersen is an active member of the Danish Brotherhood and a trustee of the Danish Lutheran Church three miles west of Parlier. He is justly popular and highly esteemed in the community.

RAYMOND D. ROBINSON.—With over thirty years' experience in the fruit-packing industry, Raymond D. Robinson is considered an authority on the various methods used in preparing fruit for the markets of the world.

He is an able manager of those who come under his direction as workers in the business and commands the respect of all with whom he comes in contact. He was born in Chenango County, N. Y., May 6, 1869. His education was received in the public schools and in the college at Marionville, Mo., to which state he was taken by his parents when he was a lad of ten years.

At the age of eighteen, on September 30, 1887, young Mr. Robinson arrived at Riverside, Cal., and the following week he secured employment in the packing house of the Griffin-Skelly Company. Since that date he has been in the employ of this company and its subsidiary, the California Packing Corporation. A service of more than thirty years with one company is something that reflects great credit on the ability of Mr. Robinson and of which he is justly proud. In appreciation of the faithful discharge of the duties of his position and the results obtained by him, the company presented him with an elegant gold watch, properly engraved, when he had completed

his thirty years with them. This token of esteem is one of the most highly prized of his possessions.

The first two summers—1887-1888—Mr. Robinson was sent to Fresno during the packing season. He proved an apt pupil and soon mastered the details of the business, even going beyond and inaugurating new methods that soon attracted the attention of his superiors and earned him promotion. In 1889 he took up his residence in Fresno and for fourteen years he was superintendent of the packing house of Griffin-Skelly Company, then becoming plant manager. In 1917 the concern was merged with the California Packing Corporation and Mr. Robinson was retained in his old position. He has grown up in the packing industry, in which he is one of the pioneers in the packing and shipping of fruits. No man stands higher in the estimation of the growers and distributors, or commands the respect of those under his direction, than does Raymond D. Robinson. He is well and favorably known all over the fruit districts of the state.

The marriage of Mr. Robinson and Jennie M. Bevefiel, a native of Indiana, was celebrated in Fresno. They have four children: Fay, the wife of Herold Emmick and the mother of a daughter; Marjorie, Mrs. Jerome Crawford; Halbert, in the employ of the Santa Fe Railroad; and Doris, at home. Mr. Robinson has won a high place in the business circles of Fresno and the San Joaquin Valley and is a liberal contributor towards all projects that have for their object the upbuilding of the best interests of the county and state. He is a self-made man in the truest sense of the term, for he began at the bottom and by persistency of purpose he has gradually won a name and place for himself in one of the greatest lines of business in the state.

GEORGE H. SNYDER.—The oil industry has contributed, in a greater degree, to the wealth of California, during the past two decades than any other business enterprise in the state, and in the Coalinga oilfield section of Fresno County it has given a wonderful impetus to the development of all lines of business endeavor. Perhaps no corporation has been more intimately associated with the advancement of the oil industry, in the Coalinga field, than the Associated Pipe Line.

The efficient superintendent of the Maricopa division of the Associated Pipe Line, George H. Snyder, is a native of Flemington, N. J., where he was born November 16, 1864, a son of Henry and Mary (Riley) Snyder, natives of Germany and Ireland, respectively. Henry Snyder was a carpenter by trade and emigrated to the United States when a boy of seventeen. He engaged in the building business in New York, afterwards becoming a farmer in New Jersey, near Flemington. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Snyder were the parents of six children, four boys and two girls, George H. being the oldest child, and the only one living in the Golden State. When he was fourteen years old, George H. Snyder was apprenticed as a machinist in the Long Island Railway Shops, at Long Island City, where he remained three years, when he accepted a position with the Lehigh Valley Railway Shops at Perth Amboy, N. J. Mr. Snyder was next employed by the New Jersey Central Railway at Elizabethport, N. J., where he was foreman of the erecting department. After the memorable blizzard of the winter 1888, George H. Snyder, took a trip to Mexico, where he accepted a position with the International Railway Company as master mechanic, remaining with the company four years, after which he was for ten years the master mechanic of the Coahuila and Alamo Coal Company. Later on he was associated with the Sabinas Limited for two years as superintendent of their irrigation plant on the company's large farms. In 1904, George H. Snyder came to Los Angeles, Cal., where he accepted a position with the Interurban and Pacific Electric Railway, having charge of their power plants. His next position was as master mechanic for the firm of J. G. White & Co., in charge of their construction work, for the Government, on the Colorado River above Yuma. In February, 1905,

he returned to Los Angeles, where he assumed full charge of power plants of the Los Angeles Interurban and Pacific Electric Railway, and became the master mechanic of their shops. Mr. Snyder remained in the employ of the railway company until 1907, when he resigned to accept a position with the Tracy Engineering Company, of San Francisco, his duty being to install boilers for the company along the line of the Associated Pipe Line, between Bakersfield and Port Costa. About one year afterwards he became the inspector for the Associated Pipe Line between Bakersfield and Port Costa with his headquarters at Fresno. So satisfactory was his service to the company that in 1911 he was appointed superintendent of the Maricopa division which includes the business of the company between Maricopa and Mendota, a distance of 150 miles, his headquarters being located at Coalinga. So loyally and efficiently has Mr. Snyder discharged his duties to the company, that he still retains the position.

Fraternally, Mr. Snyder is a member of the Odd Fellows, of the Knights of Pythias, and is an ex-director and member of the Coalinga Growlers Club. He is greatly interested in every worthy movement that has as its aim the forwarding of the best interests of Coalinga and Fresno County and has been very active in all the war movements.

JACOB ROSENTHAL.—A splendid example of the self-made man of Fresno County, and one who, starting without means, except those provided by Nature, succeeded at last, through a willing disposition and an unflinching courage, in climbing steadily to success, is that of Jacob Rosenthal, who has not ceased to climb, for he believes that there is always room at the top. Coming from a distant shore and of a different civilization, he nevertheless brought with him qualities needed for success in the new world, and has both received from and given to the society that he found in the making, and of which he has become an honorable part.

Born in Russia, on August 27, 1870, Mr. Rosenthal is the son of Andrew and Barbara Rosenthal, both of whom were also natives of the land of the Czar. He was reared and educated in the country of his birth, and shared the home with seven other children of his parents, four of whom had the hardihood to come also to America. These were, besides the subject of this review, Philip, Henry and Kate. Philip still makes his home in Colorado, while the others reside in Fresno County.

The new century was just dawning when Jacob emigrated to the United States in 1900, and in 1901, suiting his action to the spirit of the age, he came to Fresno County. He located at Sanger and soon found employment with the Sanger Lumber Company, in whose service he remained for seven years. During this strenuous time he managed to save about \$2,000.

In 1908, he rented a ranch in Kutner Colony for one year, then in 1909 he bought twenty acres in Del Rey, in its virgin state, but he leveled the ground, got it in good condition, and planted it to vines and peaches. Upon it, also, he erected a fine dwelling, with modern conveniences. In 1915, he also bought twenty-seven acres of vineyard near Reedley and operated both until the fall of 1918, when he sold out and purchased eighty acres in Barstow Colony, where he has thirty acres of vineyard and ten acres of alfalfa, though he will put it all into vineyard and orchard. He also built a residence and suitable buildings and took up his abode in the new place in January, 1919. Mr. Rosenthal believes that the cooperation of fruit men is the only means of making a success of the raisin industry, so he is an enthusiastic member and stockholder of the California Associated Raisin Company, as well as of the California Peach Growers, Inc.

In 1889, Mr. Rosenthal was married to Miss Mollie Esheim, and they have had eleven children, of whom six are now living: Jacob, Herman, John, Frieda, Edward V., and Norman. Soon after coming to Sanger, Mr. Rosenthal took out his first citizenship papers, and in 1906 he received his second



Jacob Rosenthal

document, which made him, to his great satisfaction and that of his patriotic and grateful family, a full-fledged citizen of the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. Rosenthal and family are members of the Sanger Lutheran Church, and all are interested in its various activities, as also in the Red Cross and other patriotic endeavors, and are ready in every way to help support the administration in the great work of winning for the world a lasting peace. They are happy to have found such a welcome and such opportunities in Central California, and are glad to continue to take an active part in its development.

FRANK T. JOHNSON.—One of the native sons of California who has been very successful in having improved a fine ranch and established a good dairy, with plenty of choice alfalfa, is Frank T. Johnson, who was born near Hanford, Kings County, February 25, 1882. His father, Samuel Johnson, was born in Tennessee, and came to California across the plains. He first located at Modesto, and then moved to Kings County, where he bought land near Hanford. He next homesteaded 160 acres between Dinuba and Kingsburg, and there he planted grain and raised stock. After a while he moved back to Hanford, where he farmed until he died, in 1883. Frank was then eighteen months old. His mother was Elizabeth A. Brady of Tennessee before her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson were married in Tennessee, and came West as a young married couple. Now Mrs. Johnson resides in Fresno, the mother of ten children, seven of whom have grown up.

Frank, the youngest of all, was brought up on the farm near Hanford until he was twelve years old, and then he removed to the Dinuba farm. He attended the public school, but he also learned grain farming and viticulture. He became the owner of a part of the old home, sold it and bought twenty-five acres of it, which he set out as a peach orchard and a vineyard of Sultana and Thompson seedless grapes. When he had conducted that six years, he sold once more, and in 1909 removed to Tranquillity.

The country was new, so he bought sixty acres of raw land, which he leveled and checked to alfalfa. He engaged for a while in dairying, but later he sold the dairy. He bought more land, and has made a specialty of raising hay. Now he has 125 acres, and no better could anywhere be found.

In February, 1918, he purchased twenty acres on Marks and Church avenues, and moved there and began to cultivate vines. He also commenced to raise olives, and in both fields he made a success. He sold out in May, 1919, and moved back to his Tranquillity ranch.

At Sacramento Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Effie Maude Shutt, a native of Indiana, and three children have blessed their union. They are Dolores, Eleanor and Louis.

THOMAS J. ALLEN.—A close student of daily life, and a man of sound common sense, who after many years of hard work and struggle for existence, believes that the Socialist party offers the only adequate solution for industrialism, is Thomas J. Allen.

Mr. Allen was born in Person County, N. C., on November 2, 1865, and grew up in Person County until the age of eight, when he moved with his parents to Waite and later to Durham County, where his mother died when he was but fourteen. His parents had been poor, and when the mother died, he was without a home, and had to make his living by working out on tobacco and cotton plantations in Durham and Granville Counties, suffering hardships, neglect and abuse until he became large enough to fight for his right to live. He continued to work out on cotton and tobacco plantations in North Carolina until twenty-four and then went to Collin County, Texas, where he continued to raise cotton until 1893.

In that year he came to Hanford, Cal., arriving with hardly enough to pay for his lodging. He lost no time in finding work on ranches, and for four years followed the hard life of a farm hand.

He then came to Fresno County and bought forty acres in the Laguna de Tache Grant, and while "baching," worked hard and improved the land. He still owns this place, together with two others, 120 acres, in all, well-improved and making three very attractive ranches in the Laguna district, and in the month of July, 1919, he added still further to his possessions by the purchase of seventy additional acres, on the Murphy Slough, some three miles north of his home place.

In 1914 he went back to North Carolina, where he was married to Miss Minnie Sanford, a native of North Carolina, and a member of an old family in that state, well identified, as is the Allen family, with American history and the growth and development of the South. She is a daughter of Robert and Sally (Pool) Sanford, and was born and brought up in Granville County.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Allen started to farm, working the ranch of Mrs. Sanford, the mother-in-law; but before the summer was half over, he gave his crop to Mrs. Sanford, and on July 20, 1904, he returned with his bride to California and resumed farming operations here. He improved that place, did well, and in 1910 bought the forty acres where he now lives; still later he bought forty acres north of Riverdale. In 1912 he built the house in which they now reside. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have had three children, and two—Walter and Zelma—are still living.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Allen have many friends. Mr. Allen devotes most of his efforts to dairying, and is a stockholder and patron of the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery.

ALEXANDER BORGER.—A resident of Fresno for more than a quarter of a century, during which time he has become well-known, is Alexander Borger, proprietor of the Alex Cafe, who was born in Priwalnaja, Samara, Russia, on June 10, 1870. His father was William Borger, a grain buyer, who traveled the length of the Volga River and died in 1887. His wife, who was Mary Bier before her marriage, also died there, the mother of three sons and a daughter, of whom Alexander is the only one who came to America.

He was brought up in the city of Priwalnaja, and sent to the public schools, where he received a good education; and when fifteen was apprenticed to learn the grocery trade at Saratof. For three years he "pegged" away in return for instruction, experience and twenty dollars a year, and then he continued to work in the same place, receiving sixty dollars the fourth year, eighty dollars the fifth, and \$120 the sixth.

On account of military oppression he came to the United States, having heard here of the greater opportunities and hoping to do better. An uncle, the Rev. Jacob Legler, was a Lutheran minister in Fresno; and so, having reached New York, he crossed the continent to Fresno, which he reached on December 30, 1891. He worked with the Southern Pacific builders of the Pollasky road, and in 1892 picked grapes. After that, for two years, he worked in Stack's restaurant, and then for a couple of years he was with Gambrinos.

Next he started in the grocery business on G Street with M. Karle and continued for a year; and having sold out, he leased, with Henry Fries, a ranch on the Laguna Grant. The partners had a vineyard there, but after a year they dissolved their partnership. He was next in the employ of Ed Schwartz for four years, and was then proprietor of the Railroad House for a year.

Having conducted a restaurant on I Street for two years, he disposed of the business and for a year was grading streets as a general contractor. Then he engaged in the grocery business with H. Bier on California and Elm avenues, and after a year sold out and was in the employ of H. Schwartz for two years.

In 1913 he bought the Waffle Kitchen from Charles Kline, and when he became proprietor, he named the now famous eating-place the Alex Cafe. It is located at 1042 H Street, a remodeled and thoroughly up-to-date estab-

lishment. Mr. Borger also owns a twenty-acre vineyard at Biola devoted to raising Thompson seedless raisins and is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. Mr. Borger also built and now owns a handsome residence at 455 F Street.

On October 2, 1892, Mr. Borger was married at Fresno to Miss Mary Bier, who came to Fresno in 1892. She is a native of Mr. Borger's birthplace in Russia, and the daughter of Philipp Bier, a farmer there. Mr. and Mrs. Borger have had four children: Katie, who is Mrs. McMahon of Fresno; Alexander, Jr., who is with the subject of our sketch; Mary, who died when she was only a year old; and Henry, the youngest. The family attend the German Lutheran Church.

WILLIAM HARRISON ENLOW.—A progressive young man, formerly manager of the Builders Lumber Company at Kerman, is William Harrison Enlow, a native son, born in Tulare County, sixteen miles from Visalia, in the Kaweah district. His father, Henry Harlan Enlow, was also a native son, born in the same county. His grandfather, John Kinney Enlow, was an Eastern man who crossed the plains as a pioneer to California, where he became a well-known farmer and stockman, and in which new land of promise he died. Growing up to man's estate, Henry Harlan Enlow farmed awhile in the vicinity of his home, and then he moved to Lemon Cove, where he was foreman of a ranch devoted to horticulture. He is now employed as foreman for the Merriam Fruit, Land and Lumber Company. Mrs. Enlow, William's mother, was Susan Hannah Snowden, before her marriage, and she was also born near Kaweah. She is the daughter of Hubbard Snowden, a native of Arkansas, who in early days crossed the prairies to California, and here, after having well performed his part, he died, in 1917, seventy-one years of age. Her own life of usefulness and joy to others, Mrs. Enlow is still living, surrounded by loving friends.

The eldest of eight children, William H. was brought up on a farm at Lemon Cove, and there attended the grammar school, later going to the high school at Visalia. At eighteen he took up the lumber business with the Naft-singer Lumber Company at Dillonwood, and thoroughly mastering every detail, he began at the bottom and worked for two years until he became a grader. Meanwhile he saved his money, and so was enabled to enter Heald's Business College from which he was graduated with honors in 1911.

For seven months Mr. Enlow was with the Fresno Home Packing Company as bookkeeper, and then he put in a year with the San Joaquin Light and Power Company at Fresno, where he was also bookkeeper. He next went into the retail lumber business with the Valley Lumber Company at Kingsburg, from February to October, 1912, and after that he went to Selma for the same company. In April, 1913, he was transferred to Fowler as yard foreman; and as such he was active until October, 1914. Then Mr. Prescott of the Valley Company secured him a place in the Kerman yard with the Builders Lumber Company. At first he was foreman, but in February, 1915, he was made manager of the yard where he remained until September, 1918.

While in Fowler, in 1914, Mr. Enlow was married to Miss Lena Isabelle Garretson, a native of Conejo, Fresno County, and who is a worthy helpmate. They have a daughter, Delores Linelle Enlow. Mr. Enlow is a member of the lumbermen's organization, the Hoo Hoos.

RICHARD BEVERLY CONDLEY.—A successful engineer widely experienced in the use of gas and steam engines and all kinds of pumps, who is highly esteemed as a citizen and neighbor, is Richard Beverly Condley, in charge of valuable properties for the Union Oil Company on the Clairmont, Ardell, Coalinga 8 and Security leases. He was born in Marshall, Saline County, Mo., on March 28, 1872, and came to California in the late nineties.

His father was David Mack Condley, a native of Arkansas who became a farmer in Saline County, Mo., moved to Napa, Cal., but returned to the Iron

State, and finally died there at Marshall. His devoted wife, who was Martha Barnett before her marriage, had been born in Benton County and also died in Missouri. Three girls and one boy were born of this union, and all are in California.

Richard, the oldest, was reared on a farm in Saline County and there educated at the public schools, remaining home until he was twenty-one. At Marshall, on March 28, 1893, he married Miss Ethel Hinton, a native of that place, and the daughter of David and Clara (Parks) Hinton, born respectively in Indiana and Pennsylvania. She came in her youth to Missouri with her parents and there married. Her father was a machinist and a stationary engineer, and was engaged in threshing, shelling corn, and manufacturing lumber for which work he ran a saw mill at Miami, on the Missouri River. Both father and mother are living at Marshall. Six children grew up, and two are in California; and Mrs. Condley is the second oldest of these.

From 1893 until 1897 Mr. Condley engaged in farming in Saline County, Mo., and then he came west to Hanford, Cal., where he entered the employ for a short time of the Southern Pacific Railroad. Then he put in four years with the winery of George West & Sons, at Hanford, and after that he removed to Bakersfield and took up work as a machinist helper for the Associated Oil Company in the Kern River Field. Continuing there, he also worked as a gas and steam engineer and a practical pump man, but after seven years, he resigned.

When the Lake View gusher No. 1 was struck, he went to Maricopa as a machinist for the Union Oil, and for several years he had charge of their machinery. In 1912 he was transferred in the same capacity to the Coalinga field, and here he has been ever since.

Four children have blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Condley—each of whom has thus far done some good work to honor the family name: Charles is also with the Union Oil, assisting his father, and is married to Eva Umburn; Lucy, now Mrs. G. C. Work, lives at Oilfields, and has one child, Robert Beverly; and Edna and David are in the Coalinga Union High School. Mr. Condley belongs to the Woodmen of the World at Bakersfield.

WILLIAM NELSON FULLER.—Identified with the development of Fresno County as one of the real upbuilders of the Arizona Colony is William Nelson Fuller. He was born in Detroit, Mich., on November 27, 1855, the son of John Fuller, a native of London, Ont., Can., and one of the successful representatives of a line of energetic forebears who came from England to New York State and then migrated to Canada.

John Fuller removed to Detroit, where he remained a few years and then located on a farm near Lexington, Sanilac County, Mich., and there followed farming until his death, at Criswell, in the same county. The mother, Jane Wilson before her marriage, was also born in London, Ont., but of Scotch descent; and she, too, died at Criswell, leaving five boys and a girl, among whom our subject is the oldest son and the only one in California.

William Nelson was reared in Sanilac County on a farm, and educated at the public schools. When sixteen, he left home and worked on farms in different parts of Southern Michigan. He saved his money and entered the high school at Grand Rapids from which he was graduated; and then he learned the trades of a carpenter and a plasterer. After completing his apprenticeships, he came West to Minneapolis, and there he worked as a journeyman, laboring also in St. Paul. Two years later he removed to Fargo, N. D., working as a carpenter, and then he went to Bismarck, where he set up as a contractor and builder. He was in Bismarck when it was the terminus of the Northern Pacific Railroad, and was also there when the capitol was moved from Pierre to Bismarck.

In 1887, when the development of California realty interests was at its height, he came to Los Angeles and engaged in farming and horticulture, which he continued for five years; he then came north to Fresno County,



T. E. Butler

where he homesteaded 160 acres near Raymond in what is now Madera County. He made numerous improvements, erecting buildings and in five years he sold the property at an advantage; and then he came to his present place. This was in 1897, and Mr. Fuller was one of the first settlers in the Montpelier Colony.

He began with fifteen acres of raw land—mere hog wallow—on Thorn Avenue, bought a water right, constructed a ditch, and brought the water on to the place; he then began raising strawberries for the Fresno market. He had ten acres of berries, and with a Mr. Markley was a pioneer strawberry grower in this section. Later he bought ten acres more of land. After some years, he quit raising strawberries and set out the whole twenty-five acres in a peach orchard, making a specialty of Muir, Lovell and Elberta peaches. He has raised as many as two tons of dried peaches to the acre, and has sold dried peaches as low as two and a half cents a pound, and as high as fifteen cents a pound. He and his wife have developed their property into a beautiful place, and they are now the oldest settlers on the Montpelier tract. A member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., from its organization, he is also a stockholder and a member in the California Associated Raisin Company.

While in Los Angeles, Mr. Fuller was married to Lucy Mohr, a native of Switzerland, in which country she was reared until she was fifteen, when she came to Racine, Wis. She also came to Los Angeles in the boom year of 1887. Both Mr. and Mrs. Fuller are members of the Presbyterian Church in Fresno, and each endeavors to perform civic service under the banners of the Republican party.

THOMAS EDWARD BUTLER.—In these days of special training and strenuous effort, he who hopes to attain success, whether in professional, commercial or agricultural lines, must be a man of brains and persistency, with a scientific knowledge of his chosen vocation. Such a man is T. E. Butler, who has risen to a prominent place among the fruit-growers of Fresno County.

Mr. Butler is a native of Illinois where he was born in Wayne County, April 5, 1886, a son of William M. and Charlotte (McDuffee) Butler. He was reared and educated in his native state in the public schools and early began to learn the details of farming. In 1906 he migrated to California, locating at Dinuba, and entered the employ of F. H. Wilson, of Tulare County, for whom he worked nine years on his various ranches. The experience gained through this period of employment was very valuable and especially helpful in the discharge of his responsible position later in life. He began at the very bottom and gradually worked his way to the top. Mr. Butler has concentrated his thought upon horticulture and viticulture and is a close student of nature. He worked for M. Pettit for two years and to him gives much of the credit for the success he has made in later years, for he was a kind employer, willing to impart helpful information to Mr. Butler, who was anxious to learn.

By reason of his superior knowledge and practical experience, Mr. Butler was called to take charge of 160 acres in Barstow Colony, devoted to vines and figs, owned by W. M. Hopper, and from there, on May 15, 1919, he came to his present place as manager of the Hopper Ranch at Parlier, 150 acres of which is in orchard of peaches and apricots. During the busy season he has the oversight of about 100 people, at other times six or seven. This responsible position requires a thorough knowledge of the fruit industry.

In 1905, T. E. Butler was united in marriage with Miss Ethel Scott, a native of Sims, Ill., and the daughter of Frank Scott. Mr. and Mrs. Butler have two sons, Roy and Earl. Mr. Butler has exceeded his expectations as a successful viticulturist and orchardist, and his integrity of character, perseverance and business methods justly merit the high esteem in which he is held in his community.

JEFFERSON E. DAVIS.—The traditions of a distinguished American family especially prominent in the South are revived in the narration of the life of Jefferson E. Davis, an influential member of the City of Fresno Board of Police and Fire Commissioners, and an extensive stockman owning 3,000 acres of choice land in Fresno, Stanislaus and Merced counties. His father was William Hale Davis, a native of Mississippi and a second cousin of Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States. When a mere child, he came to Little Rock, Ark., and the Davis family therefore was one of the first white families that settled at that place. An aunt, Mrs. Mary Lemberger, W. H. Davis' sister, whose home is still at Little Rock, although now about 106 years old, paid a visit to Fresno relatives in the summer of 1912; she enjoys the distinction of being the first white child born at Little Rock.

William Hale Davis left Little Rock in October, 1849, and came across the plains in company with his brother-in-law, John Lemberger, traveling by way of Salt Lake City; and they had several fights with the Indians. Landing at Dogtown, in Tuolumne County, in April, 1850, they went to work in the mines there and in the fall of that year, Mr. Lemberger died. Just about that time the trouble with the Digger Indians began in Mariposa County, and Mr. Davis and his partner, Charles B. Watts (late of Watts Valley, Fresno County), both enlisted, as volunteers, under Brigadier-General Edward Fitzgerald Beale, and fought until the Indians were subdued. During this campaigning, Mr. Davis had a thrilling experience such as would be likely to try any man's mettle. Sent by General Beale on a foraging expedition to get meat for the company, he was caught in a terrible snowstorm and was lost in the mountains. Suddenly, as if he dropped from the skies, an Indian appeared, and tapping him on the shoulder, exclaimed, "Omega!" meaning "friend;" the Indian then guided Mr. Davis to his tribe, which lived in the Yosemite Valley, and kept him until the snowstorm was over, when the chief showed him the sights and sent a guide to help him find his way back to General Beale's command. Thus Mr. Davis was one of the first white men to see the Yosemite Falls when the country round about was in its primeval state, and before travelers of any kind began to come there in numbers. After the Indian troubles, he drifted on to Fort Miller, in Mariposa County, where he came into touch with Phineas Banning and other pioneers and military men besides General Beale.

He stayed in Mariposa County and mined until 1860, when he came over to the Kings River Bottoms and, settling on the river banks, engaged in farming and stockraising until the fall of 1867, when the floods swept away his houses and drowned many of his cattle. He then took the remnants of his herds and drove to Watts Valley and there followed the cattle and sheep business until the time of his death, in November, 1870, when he passed away about fifty years of age.

William Hale Davis was married at El Monte in 1857 to Miss Sarah Jane Ellis, the daughter of Dr. T. O. Ellis, a physician, who was also a bishop in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South; and he preached while riding horseback with his saddlebags and bibles all the way from Los Angeles to Stockton and Sacramento, establishing churches wherever he went. Mrs. Davis is one of the most wonderful pioneer women, of very strong character as may be inferred from the fact that she drove an ox team across the plains all the way from Texas, her native State. Born in Tyler County, she belonged to a family that, like the Davis', came from Mississippi. Dr. Ellis was one of the first school superintendents of Fresno County, and he twice filled that responsible office—in 1868-69 and again from 1872 to 1875. Left a widow in 1870 with a family of five boys and one girl, Mrs. Davis carried on the ranching operations, kept the family together, and reared them with a good education. At the age of eighty-two she is still living on her ranch of 500 acres twenty miles southeast of old Fort Miller, and twenty miles northeast of Fresno; and there she has dwelt since 1874. She attended to all of her own

business until 1916 when she sold her cattle to her son, John V. Davis, and leased him the farm as a stock ranch.

Except the eldest child, Thomas, who died when he was three years old, Mrs. Davis' children are all living. William T. resides with his mother on the ranch and is engaged in cattle raising; Jefferson Ellis is the subject of our review; Mary Frances is the wife of D. M. Baird, an extensive rancher of Fresno County elsewhere mentioned in this work; Eugene G. resides at Clovis and is a cattle raiser; John O., already referred to, runs the Davis ranch; and W. H. lives at Fresno and is a vineyardist.

Jefferson Ellis Davis was born at Hornitas, in Mariposa County, on January 21, 1863, while his mother was there on a visit, and grew up mainly in Fresno County. His educational advantages were limited, so that his knowledge is of a practical nature such as one might be expected to acquire through his work. As a boy, he began to drive horses, operate machinery and work on the farm, and at sixteen he managed the farm of the Davis estate.

In 1901 he was married to Miss Martha R. Taylor of Los Angeles, a graduate of the State Normal at Los Angeles and of the University of California; and formerly a teacher in Fresno County. Her father was Asher Taylor, the well-known pioneer, and his portrait is to be found with those of the early pioneers of San Francisco, including Flood, Mackay, Rowleston, and others. Since his marriage, Mr. Davis has been engaged in general ranching and stockraising. Mr. and Mrs. Davis have five children: Muriel R. graduated from the Fresno High School with the Class of '18; Warren Jefferson is still in attendance at that well-conducted institution; William Emery, Barbara, and Gordon P.

A police and fire commissioner of Fresno with a record in each instance that is very good, Mr. Davis has always worked to elevate the standard of morality in the city and has very naturally been in favor of making Fresno a dry town. He is a member of St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal Church. In national politics, he is a Democrat.

JOHN H. GILBERTSON.—The enterprising and progressive blacksmith of Coalinga, Jack Gilbertson, as he is familiarly known, is of Scotch ancestry, his grandfather, Henry Gilbertson, having been born in the land of the heather and of Bobby Burns, from which country he emigrated to Canada, afterwards moving over the line into New York State. He was a blacksmith by trade and passed his last days in the Empire State. The father of J. H. Gilbertson was Thomas Gilbertson, a native of Canada, who followed the trade of blacksmith in New York State as well as in Pennsylvania. While he was engaged at his trade in the latter state, oil was discovered at the old Drake well, near Titusville, Pa. Later on he ran a shop at Bradford, Pa., and it was in this place that he died. John H. Gilbertson, the subject of this sketch, was born on May 10, 1877, near the famous old Drake oil-well, located near Titusville, Pa. His mother, in maidenhood, was Ellen O'Hara, a native of New York State, and she resides now at Long Beach, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gilbertson were the parents of ten children, eight of whom are living, J. H. being the sixth child.

When eleven years of age, Jack Gilbertson moved with his parents to Bradford, Pa., and it was in the public school of this town that he received his early education. Following the footsteps of his father and grandfather, he learned the trade of a blacksmith, and in due time ran a shop in partnership with his father. He remained with him until he sold his interest and then he accepted a position with an oil-tool company, in West Virginia, where he was the blacksmith for the firm of Betman, Watson & Burnham, in Belmont, W. Va. After remaining here three years he returned to Bradford where he was in the employ of the Oil Well Supply Company, as a blacksmith, continuing with them for five years. Having a desire to see the western states, Mr. Gilbertson migrated as far west as Kiefer, Okla., where he was

foreman of the Independent Iron Works, engaged in building oil-well machinery. His next move was eastward, as he located at Rochester, N. Y., where he secured employment with the Fredericks Structural Iron Works as foreman of their blacksmithing department. After remaining here a few months, Mr. Gilbertson moved to California, making his advent into the Golden State in 1906, locating at Coalinga, where he secured employment with the California Oilfields Limited, as a blacksmith, which position he filled for three years, when he left Coalinga for Tonopah, Nev. After serving nine months as master mechanic of the Tonopah Extension, he resigned and returned to Coalinga, where he accepted the position of head blacksmith for the Bunting Iron Works, which place he efficiently filled for five years, resigning in 1915 to engage in business for himself. Purchasing the blacksmith shop of Hansen & Borum, he opened a general blacksmithing business, also engaged in auto repairing and light oil-tool blacksmithing work. Mr. Gilbertson is an expert in his line of work, an enterprising business man who has the happy faculty of making friends, which accounts for his growing and prosperous business, located on Front Street, Coalinga. From a boy Mr. Gilbertson was reared in the oil region and has been through most of the prominent oil-fields and has had valuable experience in the making of oil-well tools. While with the Oil Well Supply Company in Bradford, Pa., he assisted in the making of the fishing tools that were exhibited at the Saint Louis Exposition.

Mr. Gilbertson was united in marriage with Miss Gladys M. Levey, a native of Iowa, and they have three children: Jack; Helen, and Norma. Fraternally, Mr. Gilbertson is a member of the Eagles.

JAMES P. GREGORY.—An enterprising and progressive resident of the Rolinda section of Fresno County, is James P. Gregory, merchant and rancher who has become one of the leading men in his community, where he is very popular. He was born near Chattanooga, Tenn., December 3, 1876, a son of Thomas and Sarah (Milam) Gregory, who were both born in that state. The elder Gregory was both a merchant and farmer, and conducted a mercantile establishment in Daisy, Hamilton County, and later in Hill City, Tenn. Subsequently he removed to the Cherokee Nation and engaged in farm pursuits at Vian and there he passed to his reward. Mrs. Gregory died in Tennessee. They were the parents of two children: James P., of this review, and Mrs. J. C. Bach, of Barstow Colony. By a former marriage Thomas Gregory was the father of three children, and by a later one, of one son, Lawrence, now in the United States Army.

James P. was educated in the public schools in Tennessee until his removal with the family to the Cherokee Nation in 1891, there he continued his studies in the public school and completed at the academy. During the interval he assisted his father on the farm. Having a desire to see the Pacific Coast country, in 1901 he left for California and came direct to Fresno. He soon found employment in the store at Kearney Park owned by the late M. Theo. Kearney, and there, by careful attention to the interests of his employer, he soon became known as a young man of ability and was made manager of the store.

In 1905, having gained a good insight into local conditions and become familiar with the methods of carrying on the general merchandise business here, Mr. Gregory saw a good opening for a like enterprise on White's Bridge Road, one-half mile east of Rolinda Station. He leased an acre of land and the small building that had been erected for him, and began on a small scale. There were but few ranches in the locality and the little store was the only building at the four corners. Being well and favorably known, he soon drew trade from former patrons of the Kearney store and gradually his business grew. Before three years had passed he was able to buy the land where his store stood and some besides, making two and one-half acres; he tore



Mr. and Mrs. John Bien

down the old building and erected a more commodious structure and by close application to business prospered beyond his expectations. He it was who gave the name of Rolinda to the settlement; also named Rolinda Avenue, running north and south. During the time he was carrying on the store he also farmed some land across the road from his store and raised some good crops. On account of ill health caused by too close confinement in the store, Mr. Gregory sold out the stock of merchandise in March, 1919, and then turned his attention to the development of a ranch of sixty acres that he purchased in July, 1918, and which is located on McKinley Avenue. Later, he expects to reenter the mercantile field at Rolinda. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and he served as a deputy under Sheriffs Chittenden, McSwain, Thorwaldsen and Jones. As a republican he has ever sought to do his duty at the polls; also has shown an interest in educational affairs and is serving as a trustee of the Houghton school district. Fraternally, he is a member of Houghton Lodge of the Fraternal Brotherhood at Rolinda and of Pitiaches Tribe, I. O. R. M., at Fresno.

The marriage of James P. Gregory and Miss Bena Jacobsen, the daughter of P. C. Jacobsen, a pioneer resident of this section, was celebrated in February, 1904. Of this union six children have been born: Ruth, Emma, Edna, James, Clarence, and Parker, who add to the charm of the Gregory household, and with their parents enjoy the good will and esteem of their many friends.

JOHN BIEN.—A prosperous rancher of the Biola district, John Bien is justly proud of his record and what he has accomplished through his own industry and thrift. Born in Dinkel, Samara, Russia, August 30, 1875, he is a son of George and Annie (Grommer) Bien, both residents of that country, and there the father's death occurred, in 1878; the mother still living in the old country. John is one of two brothers left living out of a family of three boys and one girl born to his parents. He was educated in the public schools of his native town and when six years of age went to live with his uncle, Conrad Bien, remaining with him until the age of fifteen. From that early age he made his own way in life, working out on farms for his board and twenty-five dollars a year, which stipend was increased a little each year, until when twenty-four years of age he was receiving fifty dollars a year, out of which sum he had to buy his clothes and incidentals—an illustration of the scant wages paid to young people in that country.

In the fall of 1898, the young man emigrated to the United States, and first located in Lincoln, Nebr., where he was in the employ of the Union Pacific Railroad. In the fall of 1900 he came to Fresno, and for seven years was in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad. In 1907 he left the railroad work and was employed in a clothing establishment for eighteen months; then leased a ranch on Barstow Avenue, raised alfalfa and engaged in the dairy business for five years. During this time he bought his present ranch, in 1910, and for a time worked both places. He now has a forty-acre ranch on Biola and Barstow Avenues, fifteen miles northwest of Fresno, thirty-five acres of which are in Thompson and muscat grapes, and the balance in alfalfa. He has made modern improvements on his property, built a fine residence and barns, put in a modern pumping-plant for irrigation purposes, and is prospering and reaping the fruits of his industry and enterprise.

Mr. Bien's marriage, in Fresno, united him, on January 8, 1901, with Miss Annie Miller, born in Stahl, Samara, Russia, a daughter of Andrew and Marie (Grill) Miller, who came to California in 1900 and are now living in Dinuba. They were the parents of seven children, Mrs. Bien being the oldest of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Bien have had eight children born to them, six of whom are living: George, Fred, Amelia, Lizzie, Martha, and John, Jr. The

family attends the Congregational Lutheran Church of Fresno. Mr. Bien is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and keeps in step with the march of progress which is sweeping throughout this section of the state.

HARVEY H. GEORGESON.—A hard-working, honest, gentleman is Harvey H. Georgeson, who was born in Berlin, Wis., on April 1, 1887. His father was originally known as L. P. Jorgensen, but owing to much confusion in the delivery of his mail, due to the presence of so many Jorgensens, he had his name changed to Georgeson.

The fourth eldest in a family of eight children, all of whom grew to maturity, Harvey H. lived in Wisconsin until 1895, when he came West to California and Fresno County with his parents. They located in the Madison school district, and there the lad attended school and obtained the foundation of a good education. He was given much work to do, however, as a boy, and so early learned viticulture and general ranching, at which he busied himself until his seventeenth year. He then worked, until the fall of 1911, at logging, lumbering, and stationary engineering at Millwood, Pine Ridge and the Standard Lumber Company's plant.

On New Year's Day, 1912, Mr. Georgeson was married to Miss Clara V. Hansen, who was born at Malaga, Fresno County, a daughter of H. C. Hansen.

Following his marriage, Mr. Georgeson purchased his present ranch of twenty acres at the corner of Madison and Braly avenues. He laid out a fine vineyard and erected a residence with suitable buildings for farm use. His vineyard yields the best of Muscat and Thompson seedless grapes, and these command the highest prices in the market. Mr. Georgeson is both a member and a stockholder of the California Associated Raisin Company.

For the past six years Mr. Georgeson has also assisted in caring for the county roads in road district No. 1, and he runs the Holt caterpillar sixty horsepower engine used in doing the road work.

Mr. and Mrs. Georgeson have two children, Gilbert and Stanley.

RICHARD I. FARRIS.—A representative of the splendid type of manhood of the Middle Western States, Richard I. Farris was born in Lincoln, Logan County, Ill., November 23, 1876. His father, John H., was born in Kentucky, but removed to Illinois in his youth. He then went to Washington County, Iowa, where he engaged in farming for eighteen years. He first came to California in 1882, but he returned to Iowa again. In 1910 the Farris family moved to Fresno County where they engaged in the dairy business until the father's death, in 1913. He lacked eight days of reaching his eightieth year. The mother in maidenhood was Louisa Harrold; she was born in Illinois, and is still living, residing in Fresno. To them were born four children: Mary, of Fresno; Richard I.; Morton, of Fresno; and Nora, now Mrs. Nowel, of Muscatine, Iowa. The father, by a former marriage, had four children, two of whom are living.

Richard I. was raised in Illinois until his sixteenth year. He followed farming there until 1896 when he went to Iowa, immediately beginning work with his father on the farm, and continuing there until the farm was sold, after which he engaged in farming for himself. In 1903 he made his first trip to California, and in 1910, having sold out, came again and located in Fresno County, where he entered into the dairy business on his father's place. Here great improvements have been made; they have a pumping-plant with twenty-horsepower engine and seven-inch pump, and the land is also under the Herndon canal system. They have fifteen cows in the dairy, and are raising alfalfa, also.

Mr. Farris was married January 23, 1901, to Miss Stella Coppock, daughter of William and Frances C. (Edwards) Coppock, who were natives respectively of Ohio and Pennsylvania. Mrs. Farris was born in Osborne County, Kans.

Her parents were farmers in Iowa, and then in Kansas for a time, but later returned to Iowa. Her father was a Civil War veteran, a member of Company D, Fourth Iowa Cavalry. He has passed on, leaving his wife and nine children. Mrs. Coppock is now a resident of Iowa. Mrs. Farris is the fourth of this large family.

To Mr. and Mrs. Farris have been born four children: Velma, Wendell, Dale and Gertrude. They are all members of the North Side Christian Church, Fresno. Mr. Farris is a member of the Board of Trustees of Roosevelt school district, and of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association. He was made a Mason in Dayton Lodge, No. 149, F. & A. M., at Wellman, Iowa, and transferred his membership to Washington Lodge, No. 26, Washington, Iowa, of which he is still a member. The Farris family occupies a high place in the life of the community.

CLAIR E. HALIBURTON.—Of a long line of honorable ancestry, himself a worthy descendant, Clair E. Haliburton, proprietor of The Toggery, in the Amy Block, stands among the foremost business men of Coalinga. The Haliburton family in the United States is large and all of that name are related by blood, being the descendants of two brothers, who came from Scotland to the United States before the Revolutionary War. One of them settled in North Carolina, and some of his descendants moved to Tennessee, and it is from this branch that Clair Haliburton is descended. His father was Henry Warren Haliburton, who was born in Dickson County, Tenn. His grandfather was Charles Haliburton who was born in North Carolina but who moved to Tennessee when quite young, and engaged in farming when grown. There are many Haliburtons in North Carolina, Tennessee, Missouri, Arkansas and Texas, and a few in Virginia, and they have become prominent in business and as professional men. More of them have engaged in the mercantile business than in other lines of activity.

Henry Warren Haliburton, the father, was reared in Dickson County. In 1846, when a young man, he migrated to Missouri, and located in Randolph County, where he became an industrious and honorable citizen. Soon after the discovery of gold in California, in 1849, he crossed the plains, driving an ox team in a large train of wagons, and located in Plumas County. After following mining awhile he drifted into the stock business, at Globe, Tulare County, where he purchased a ranch and became successful and influential. He died in 1896 at the age of seventy-four years. The mother was Mary Martha Osborn, a native daughter of California, born in Tulare County. Her parents also crossed the plains in the early pioneer days of California. She died in 1894.

Clair Haliburton is the youngest of seven children, and was born at Globe, Tulare County, August 10, 1884. Following the death of his mother he lived with his sister, Mrs. A. J. Phillips, now of Tulare, until he had completed the public school course. At fourteen he began clerking in Epstein's store, at Visalia, receiving only five dollars a week, and out of this he had to board himself. He stuck to it for four months, and then began clerking for C. O. Anderson, general merchandise, at Reedley, remaining with him over six months, when he came to Coalinga to enter the employ of A. P. May, as a clerk in the gents' furnishing department. He took a deep interest in his work, and was rewarded by being placed in charge of the department. After a period of three years he resigned, having decided to engage in business for himself.

In 1905 he started a cleaning and pressing establishment on Front Street, but this soon gave way to the idea of a gents' furnishing goods store, new and up-to-date. For this purpose he borrowed \$750 from his brother. In order to get a suitable location he purchased a building and lease for \$685 cash, obtained credit and opened the Toggery. Later he took in as a partner, Louis Green who afterwards sold to a Mr. Martin, and the firm became Hali-

burton & Martin. They moved into the May Block and later into the Amy Block, where they built up a large business. In 1912, Mr. Martin sold to his partner, and the business has been the exclusive property of Mr. Haliburton, and it is one of the finest stores in Coalinga. He owes his success to close application and keeping his credit good, always meeting his obligations promptly.

With Messrs. Clayton and Hancock as partners, Mr. Haliburton brought the first privately-owned airplane to Fresno County; it is a Canadian-Curtiss J-N-4 Plane. They are using it commercially, as a passenger sight-seeing and advertising plane.

Mr. Haliburton was married in Coalinga to Miss Eva Buckalew, a native of Pennsylvania. They are the parents of two children, Emory and Richard.

Mr. Haliburton is a member of the Fresno Lodge of Elks, of the Coalinga Lodge of Eagles, and of the Chamber of Commerce. The success he has achieved is his own and no one begrudges it to him.

A. E. HASLAM.—A hard working, progressive and excellent dairy farmer is A. E. Haslam, the rancher who owns 230 acres of superior land one mile southeast of Riverdale. He is the original butter maker in that town, and has the distinction of having first demonstrated the special advantages of this section for the butter industry. He is a stockholder in the Riverdale Co-operative Creamery.

Mr. Haslam was born in London, England, the son of William Haslam, who was a native of the world's metropolis and came to America when our subject was only a year old. He settled awhile in New York City and built up a large cigar manufacturing business, through which he became comfortably fixed. He had married Elizabeth Ford, also a native of England, the ceremony taking place in that country; and they became the parents of four boys and a girl.

Growing up in New York City, Mr. Haslam read the New York Tribune and he heeded Horace Greeley's advice, "Young man, go West and grow up with the country." At twenty-five years of age he came to California and at first worked in San Luis Obispo County at grain farming. He farmed for himself and had a sad experience, for prices fell to such an extent that they broke him.

He then came to Riverdale and worked for Uncle Job Malsbury, who came to California in 1853 and located near Riverdale in 1885, and he was married to Miss Emma W. Holton, a native of St. Andrew's, New Brunswick, Canada. She was a teacher in the public schools at Conejo, in Fresno County, and one child, Margery, eleven years of age, was born to this union. Mr. Haslam had been previously married in San Luis Obispo County to Miss Ida M. Turner, a daughter of James Turner, the well-known pioneer of Riverdale who moved to this section with Mr. Haslam. She became ill and died during the first year of their residence, and she left two children. Willard married Mabel Baird and is a rancher owning eighty-six acres at Riverdale, and they have two children—May and Kenneth; Isabel, the wife of J. T. Hunter, a carpenter and builder, is the mother of four children—Dorothy, Edward, Marion and the baby.

Mr. Haslam bought his present place sixteen years ago from C. G. Milnes, and he donated a right of way to the Hanford & Summit Lake Railway. He also owns forty acres a mile to the west. He is the financial manager of the United Brethren Church of Riverdale—a living growing congregation, thanks largely to Mr. Haslam's excellent work. Mr. and Mrs. Haslam are consistent Christians, dwell in a fine ranch house which is one of the very best in Riverdale, and are patriotic citizens, always interested in advancing the welfare of the community.



Wagmar Peteran M. W.

DR. DAGMAR PETERSEN.—Dr. Petersen, of Selma, comes from a family wherein learning and character always have been valued highly. Her father, Jens Peter Petersen, was born in Denmark, became a teacher and was prominent among the educators of Denmark, but since coming to America he has turned to agriculture and has made good also in that field. He resided and farmed in Colorado and came to Fresno County in 1909; and so well has he prospered here, that he now owns a ranch near Selma. Her mother, who was Manna Trina Andersen before her marriage, and is a native of Denmark, is also resident here. Five sons and four daughters were born to this hardy couple. Two of the youngest sons were in the army in France, and three are ranching in Colorado. Besides Dr. Dagmar Petersen, Dorothea is a trained nurse and was a Red Cross nurse in France for one year, and has just returned to Selma. Mary, who is a graduate of the Colorado State Normal and the University of California, is a teacher at the Salinas High School; and Agnes is a teacher in the high school at Grass Valley, where, as a graduate of the art department of the University of Southern California, she has been chosen to supervise the drawing.

Born at Hornsburg, near Akron, Colo., Miss Dagmar attended the public grammar and high schools in that state, and first came to California in 1907. Soon after her arrival, she matriculated in the branch department of the Medical School of the University of California at Los Angeles—now devoted exclusively to postgraduate work in connection with the State University; and after taking the regular four-year course, she was graduated with the Class of 1911. She then went to San Francisco to acquire practical experience and became an interne at the Children's Hospital, ably filling that responsible, if subordinate position during the winter of 1911-12.

Ready to start entirely on her own responsibility, Dr. Petersen began general practice at Patterson in Stanislaus County, and for a year she was with Dr. Hammer. Later, for a year and a half, she practiced at Arbuckle, Cal., and in April, 1915, she took the step, of such importance to Selma as well as to herself, and moved her office to Selma.

Naturally endowed with unusual gifts for her difficult work, and blessed with a personality which inspires confidence, Dr. Petersen is building up a lucrative practice and a large clientele. Her offices are located in the Dusaw Building, Rooms 9 and 10. She is particularly adept in the diagnosis and treatment of children's and women's diseases; and as there never was a time when the specialist in these fields was more in demand, a career of useful service seems assured to this highly accomplished young woman.

HENRY RUDOLPH HALEMEIER.—An energetic native son, a patriotic citizen, and a good manager is Henry R. Halemeier, the son of August Halemeier, a native of Steinbeck, Westphalia, Germany, where he was reared on a farm. In 1886 he came to the United States and for eight months settled in Nebraska; after which, stirred by the reports of greater prospects in the Golden State, he came to California. On January 10, 1887, he arrived in Fresno County and joined the Eggers Colony; and there he worked as wine maker in the Eggers winery. He was later wine maker in the Fresno, the Margherita and Barton wineries, and rounded out a record of seventeen years in that responsible position. In the meantime he bought twenty acres of land in the Eggers Colony, and set out a vineyard with Muscat vines, and built a residence.

In 1897 Mr. Halemeier purchased his present place of eighty acres of raw land, which he improved and set out with Muscat and wine grapes, adding Thompson seedless; afterward he reset the vineyard and changed it to its present form. With characteristic enterprise, he also secured valuable land in Merced County, to which from time to time he gave his personal attention.

In 1900 Mr. Halemeier quit making wine and devoted all his energies to his property in this section. He sold twenty acres and located on the balance

of eighty acres, and there, in 1905, built a substantial residence. In 1916 he rented the place and now resides, with his wife, in Los Angeles. Mrs. Halemeier was born in Germany, where she was christened Marie Seckmann. Three children were born to this worthy couple: August H., the viticulturist on Locan Avenue; Henny, now Mrs. Haeuser, of Whittier; and Henry Rudolph, the subject of our sketch.

Born on December 28, 1891, at Eggers Colony, nine miles east of Fresno, Henry R. attended the Temperance public school, and when thirteen came to this place, where he continued his schooling. He also went to Heald's Business College in Fresno, from which he graduated with honors in 1911. Then he returned home and assisted his father in the vineyard, having learned that business from the time he was a lad.

In 1916, Mr. Halemeier leased his father's ranch of eighty acres and engaged in viticulture and general ranching. With his brother he became interested in the management of a twenty-acre tract on Locan Avenue; and as both growers are rated among the enterprising vineyard proprietors in the county they are making a success of this undertaking. H. R. Halemeier is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

At Oakland, in 1916, Mr. Halemeier was married to Miss Bertha Steinbeck, a native of that city, her father being the well-known business man, H. C. W. Steinbeck. One child, Marion Elizabeth, has blessed the union. Both Mr. and Mrs. Halemeier take a live interest in anything making for the betterment of local society, being especially active in the German Lutheran Church, as were Mr. and Mrs. Halemeier, Sr. In politics Hr. Halemeier is a Republican.

ROY HEDRICK.—The popular, efficient and courageous deputy sheriff and constable at Laton, Cal., Roy Hedrick, is also the proprietor of the Laton Garage where he is building up a large and successful business in automobiles and motor trucks, being the general agent at Laton for the Chevrolet autos and trucks. He is a native of Shirley, Ind., where he was born May 7, 1883, a son of James and Mollie (Connor) Hedrick. His mother passed away when Roy was nine months old, after which he was reared in the home of his maternal step-grandparents, Hugh and Sarah Anderson, who were farmers near Shirley, Ind. Here he attended the public school of the district and, when old enough to help, assisted his grandfather with the work on his farm.

In 1903, when twenty years of age, Roy Hedrick decided to take a trip to California, where he had an uncle, David Hedrick, residing one and a half miles east of Laton, and who had encouraged his coming to the Golden State. At first he worked on farms in the vicinity and being enterprising and economical in his habits saved his money, and after a while bought a place near his uncle which he improved and later sold to his brother Charles Hedrick. Afterwards Mr. Hedrick purchased seventeen acres of land located three-quarters of a mile east of Laton, which he still owns.

In 1916 he started in the automobile repair business, leasing from Daniels and Rutherford, former proprietors of the Laton Garage, and in 1919 bought the garage, the building being formerly owned by W. H. Daniels. When Mr. Hedrick took over the garage the business had run down, but soon afterwards, by his good management, Mr. Hedrick succeeded in building up a prosperous and successful business. He employs a competent mechanic all of the time and by thorough workmanship and prompt and efficient service he is making a name for his garage throughout this section of the county. Some idea of the magnitude to which his business has grown can be gathered from the fact that in the month of September, 1918, he sold seventeen Chevrolet touring cars. His business also includes the handling of Chevrolet motor trucks, of which he has sold several, and a general repairing business, as well as dealing in motor accessories, tires and gasoline. During his fifteen years of residence at Laton, the course of his business life

has been decidedly upward and during the past seven years Mr. Hedrick has held the office of constable and deputy sheriff at Laton, being elected to the former and appointed to the latter by the various sheriffs. Roy Hedrick is a large and powerful man physically and is especially endowed by nature for the position of a peace officer. He is courageous, intelligent, and possesses all other requisite qualities for the making of an ideal deputy sheriff.

In 1905, August 4, Roy Hedrick was united in marriage with Miss Susan McGuire, of Laton, and this happy union has been blessed by three children: Le Roy, Charlotte, and Naomi.

Fraternally, Mr. Hedrick is a member of Laton Lodge, No. 148, I. O. O. F., of Laton, Cal. He is the owner of seven residence lots in Laton and has built a comfortable home where he and his happy family reside.

JAMES H. A. JORGENSEN.—An industrious young man who has become manager of the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery Company is James H. A. Jorgensen, a Danish-American who served an apprenticeship in all the branches of milk production and the making of milk products, as practiced in Denmark. Such has been his success in butter and cheese making, condensing and evaporating, and the manufacture of casein, that his creamery has become one of the largest and finest in Central California, capable of handling the milk of from 3,000 to 5,000 cows, or 75,000 pounds, including 6,000 pounds of butter, per day in the most scientific and sanitary manner.

Mr. Jorgensen was born in Denmark on August 6, 1886, and at fourteen years of age entered as an apprentice the creamery and cheese factory at Nyborg, after which he attended the Danish school for the science and art of handling milk products. Prior to his matriculation there, Mr. Jorgensen had four years of practical experience, and when he had finished his studies, he received the school's diploma certifying to his having completed the work with honor.

Once well-equipped for work in this highly-important field, Mr. Jorgensen resolved to come to America. He first served in the Danish Navy, spending four months of his time in the waters at Iceland. He then returned home, bade his mother good-bye, and received his honorable discharge from the Government. His father, Hans, had died in 1900, aged sixty-four years, leaving a widow and seven children, of which he was the youngest. He left Copenhagen on March 12, 1908, on the "Hellig Olav" of the Scandinavian-American line. He traveled by way of Christiania, and landed at Ellis Island, New York, on March 28, 1908, after a very stormy voyage. He came West to Minnesota, and was soon busy demonstrating what he knew of dairying and the creamery business.

His first work was as a butter maker, for three months, at Round Prairie, in Todd County, and then he stayed a year at Alexandria in Douglass County, where he was employed as a butter maker for nine months for the North American Cold Storage Company. Leaving their service he came to California and locating at Petaluma, worked for two and a half months in the Bloomfield Creamery. He next held a position as manager of the Salinas Creamery for two years, and following that he was called to his present position, in 1911. This Riverdale Cooperative Creamery had been running just four months at that time, and Mr. Jorgensen has made an unqualified success since he took hold of the reins.

On November 18, 1911, Mr. Jorgensen was married at Fresno to Miss Mabel Menasco, who was born at Watsonville, the daughter of Joe Menasco, now a successful orchardist in Yolo County; and from this union have sprung three children: Harold, Elizabeth and Beverly.

The Riverdale Cooperative Creamery employs eighteen men at present, including the manager, and is favored with an equipment of the very best type. This includes a full complement of first-class creamery, condensing and refrigerating machinery and utensils, two DeLaval cream separators of the

largest size, a cream ripener and a new pasteurizer, two large curd vats, and a milk laboratory room with bacterial counts. The creamery has three boilers that furnish steam for condensing, and the machinery is run by electric power bought from the San Joaquin Light & Power Company. Electric light and power—sixty horsepower—are used throughout, and the old 25 horsepower steam engine is kept in reserve. Two Simplex churns of the large size are also used, and water is pumped from two wells on the premises of the company at Riverdale. There are condensery, refrigerator and packing departments, and cooling rooms, all thoroughly sanitary and up to date. Enlargements are continually being made, although the building of concrete and brick is about 200 by 300 feet in size. Nine trucks are used in bringing in the cream, and one large truck transports the products, nicely boxed, and put up in pound bricks.

Condensed milk in bulk form is a new departure and is now being made here, as well as casein—two products derived from skimmed milk. As the name indicates, it is a cooperative industry, in which about 100 resident farmers and dairymen are stockholders and members. The company was incorporated under the laws of the State of California and in 1910 it erected the present building, which was enlarged in 1918. The brand of this creamery is "Challenge Butter" and has taken prizes wherever it has been exhibited.

The officers of the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery are: H. M. Hancock, Riverdale, President; J. B. Lewis, Fresno, Vice-President; C. H. Dewey, Riverdale, Secretary; the First National Bank, Riverdale, Treasurer; and James H. A. Jorgensen, Manager. John Clausen is the butter maker; and J. A. Bowen is bookkeeper. The directors are: A. J. Vancleef, F. A. Andrews, R. S. Gobby, H. L. Owen, and H. M. Hancock, Riverdale; J. B. Lewis, formerly at Riverdale, now in Fresno; and C. H. Dewey, Riverdale.

Fond of social life and popular with all classes, Mr. Jorgensen is a member of the Odd Fellows' lodge at Riverdale, where he is a Past Grand and Past District Deputy Grand Master.

JUAN MIGUEL URRUTIA.—A rancher and stockman of wide experience and unerring judgment and foresight is J. M. Urrutia, an extensive sheep-grower, landowner and farmer, who first saw the light at Mezquiriz, Navarra, Spain, on February 26, 1883. He is the son of Antonio Urrutia, an agriculturist and stockman, who owned a large farm when he died, in 1893, while Juan was ten years of age. His wife was Manuella Yrigoyen, before her marriage, and she became the mother of eight children, among whom Juan was the fourth oldest. She was even a larger landowner, and she is still living.

Juan, who is the only one of the family now in California, was brought up on a farm in Spain, where he enjoyed but very limited educational advantages, and from his tenth year he worked assisting and helping his mother. After he came to California, he saw the need of education; and so he studied evenings, and gradually learned to read and to speak English. He was only seventeen when he determined to say farewell to his native land. Arriving in Fresno, January 2, 1901, three days later he found employment with a sheep-grower on the West Side, and with him he continued for fourteen months. Having somewhat mastered English, he moved to Coalinga, where he was engaged by Matias Erro, and six months thereafter, he shifted again, this time to Tehachapi, where he was busy in the same line for three months.

A fourteen months' contract to chop wood for the Union Lime Company followed, and after that, he went to the mines, for a short time, in Piute, Kern County, but he did not like the experience, and so accepted a position as engineer at the lime-kiln at Tehachapi, from which place he went to Bakersfield. He was again in the employ of a sheepraiser for a year, and this led him to get a flock of his own, which after six months on the range, he sold in Mono County. When he returned to Fresno, he bought another bunch of sheep, and for some years devoted himself to sheep-raising.



J. M. Whittier

Mr. Urrutia next bought a ranch at Huron, on the West Side, and set to work energetically to make improvements. He sunk a well and erected the necessary buildings; and he raised grain while continuing in the sheep business. After selling his flock he found that he had made a good clean-up, so he concluded to continue in the business, and determined to enlarge his operations and branch out; but he soon found that his lack of the necessary capital was a hindrance. He then went to San Francisco and arranged with Messrs. George C. Alferetz & Co., establishing a credit with them; and as the years rolled by and his business grew to very large proportions, he drew heavily on them. He was careful, however, in all of his operations, never to abuse his credit, nor was their confidence in him misplaced. He continued to use their credit until they closed their business house and retired from business in 1916.

Since Mr. Urrutia started raising grain in 1909, he has never farmed less than 2,000 acres a year, and some years he has had 3,000 acres in grain. For this purpose, he originally used horses and mules; but later he bought a seventy-five-horse-power C. L. Best Caterpillar for plowing and putting in the crops, as well as pulling the combined harvester.

While living on this ranch, Mr. Urrutia was married at San Francisco on November 10, 1913, when he took for his wife Miss Fermina Erro, a native of the same place from which Mr. Urrutia came, who settled in Fresno in 1910. Two children have blessed their union—Joseph and Beatrice.

Mr. Urrutia has met with unusual success in both farming and sheep-growing. By 1913 he had 15,000 head of sheep, although during the winter, 1913-14, he sold off 7,000 head in the market, and then by natural increase as well as purchase, he enlarged the number in his flocks so that in 1915 he sold 6,000 sheep in the market, and in 1916 he sold off another bunch of 9,000 head. He also sold his West Side ranch and all his holdings there, and moved to Herndon, where he purchased a ranch of fifty acres, all in alfalfa. There he resided with his family and made many improvements, putting in a pumping plant, run by a gas engine, and thus greatly enhancing the value of the property. He started a dairy there, while he continued his investment in sheep, and he still has 8,000 head. He runs them in four bands, leasing lands in both Madera and Fresno Counties. Mr. Urrutia raises grain in partnership with others, and devotes about 2,400 acres to wheat, barley and rye. Besides this, he also owns forty acres in Madera County, three and a half miles south of Madera, which he has set out and improved to vines, and a ranch of 160 acres near the San Joaquin River in Madera County, which he devotes to grain. He also owns 220 acres six miles south of Hanford, Kings County, devoted to grain and alfalfa and a twenty-five-acre full bearing peach orchard between McKinley and Shields Avenues five miles northwest of Fresno.

In 1917 Mr. Urrutia purchased his residence at 810 S Street, Fresno, where he resides with his wife and two children, Joseph and Beatrice. He also owns other valuable property in Fresno, namely, a residence on R Street, and three lots on the corner of N and Fresno Streets, two business lots on Van Ness Avenue, close in; and twelve large lots in the State Normal Addition, two lots, numbers 28 and 29 on J Street, between Inyo and Ventura. In partnership with G. B. Frencheboy, he owns the Reedley Garage, which they run under the firm name of Urrutia & Frencheboy, and he and his partner act as agents for various high-class cars. With the same partner, in 1916, he purchased 173 acres of vineyard and orchard, seven miles northeast of Reedley, 120 acres is devoted to malaga, muscat and Thompson seedless vines, while the balance is in figs. The same firm also own twenty-two and a half acres of vineyard, three and a half miles northeast of Reedley. Seeing great possibilities in Lower California, Mr. Urrutia with others was one of the organizers of, and a large stockholder in the Chinn-Gribel Company, that purchased a large tract in that country. They have built a canal, taking water from the Colorado River, and already placed a large portion of their

extensive holding under irrigation, and are planning to put water over the entire tract.

Mr. Urrutia has had many other interests, among them that of a stockholder in the First National Bank of Lemoore and is an original stockholder in the Growers National Bank of Fresno. He and his family are members of St. John's Catholic Church, and he is a popular member of the Eagles. He is a member and a stockholder of both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc., as well as of the old Danish Creamery Association, and he belongs to the California Wool-growers Association. He is a stand-pat Republican. Mr. Urrutia has shown his patriotism in many ways, not only by enlarging his grain area, when the country wanted grain, but in liberally supporting all the bond and war drives.

MRS. NELLIE LEWIS.—A Kansas girl who has developed into a California woman of splendid attainments, influential both in the social and the commercial world, is Mrs. Nellie Lewis, widow of the late William A. Lewis, member of the erstwhile real estate firm of Lewis & Wells.

She was born at Colony, Anderson County, Kans., the daughter and oldest child of Joseph H. and Laura (Matthews) McDowell, who are now living at Selma, the parents of six children—Nellie; Carl, who served in the cavalry service in France, and Nina, Gladys, Velma and Chester, who are at home. She attended the grammar schools of Kansas, and in 1914 came to Selma with her parents. Here, in December, 1915, she was married to William Andrew Lewis, a native of Missouri. They were members of the Christian Church at Selma, and also active in War Work; and among the last efforts for others made by Mr. Lewis was to take a hand in the United War Work Drive.

W. A. Lewis died at the Emergency Hospital in Selma aged thirty-five years, and is survived by his wife and his mother. The funeral was in charge of the Selma Lodge of Odd Fellows, of which he was a member in high standing. Because of the health regulations it was necessary to hold the funeral in the open air. Among the floral offerings was one piece presented by the real estate firms of Selma, who took this opportunity of expressing their appreciation of him when one of their colleague. Mr. Lewis was a member of the First Christian Church of this city, and was numbered among the most progressive and wide-awake business men, and in his death, Selma suffered a distinct loss.

Besides being an active church and war worker, and ever interested in the general uplift of the community, Mrs. Lewis has good business ability, and may be found every day at her desk in the office of the Sun Maid Realty Company, attending to the combined interests of that concern, which deals in real estate and insurance, and the firm of E. J. Wells & Co., operators of the seven ranches formerly owned by Lewis & Wells. Through her, in part, the many friends and patrons of the companies have been increased in number, thus affording a fine demonstration of the capability of a woman with a winning personality to make her mark in the business world.

LAUGE LAUGESSEN.—It is a long way from Denmark to Fresno County, Cal., but many upbuilders of the commonwealth have come from that distant country, and among these is Lauge Laugesen, who was born July 1, 1875, at Brorup, Jylland, Denmark, a son of Christian and Catherine (Christian) Laugesen. The father was a farmer and a patriot, having served two years in the Danish-German War, 1864-1866. He passed away in 1917, the mother is also deceased. Of this union there were four children, Lauge Laugesen, being next to the youngest. Of the second marriage of Christian Laugesen, there were also four children, one of whom is Conrad Anderson, residing in the vicinity of Rolinda.

Lauge Laugesen was reared in his native land and attended the public schools of Denmark, until he was fourteen years of age, when he was ap-

prenticed for three years to a blacksmith, later working for five years at his trade in Roding, Schleswig, following which he and his brother Anton started a shop at Brorup, Denmark, which they continued to operate for eighteen months, when Lauge sold his interest to his brother and set sail for the United States, arriving at Fresno, Cal., in 1902. In the Rolinda district he found employment at his trade with Carl M. Jacobsen, where he remained one year and following this he was engaged one summer as a blacksmith for Nels Petersen, at Fresno. Later at Kutner Colony he opened a shop of his own, but afterwards was employed for four years as manager of the blacksmith shop owned by M. Theo. Kearney.

Mr. Laugesen being a very enterprising man and possessing those innate characteristics of his fellow countrymen, thrift and economy, he had by 1910 saved sufficient money to warrant the purchase of thirty acres of land, which he selected at Rolinda and where he established his blacksmith shop which he has run ever since. He erected a residence and farm buildings, improved the thirty acres by setting out a vineyard and planting alfalfa, digging a canal and installing a pumping-plant. In addition to his blacksmithing he conducts a carriage and wagon works, does auto repairing and sells agricultural implements.

In Fresno, on October 25, 1903, Mr. Laugesen was united in marriage with Miss Christene Nielsen, a native of Denmark. They have two children: Gladys and Einar.

Mr. Laugesen is a member of the Danish Brotherhood at Fresno; he adheres to the Lutheran faith, and is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. In 1916, Mr. and Mrs. Laugesen and the children, took a trip to Denmark, to see his father and visit the scenes of his boyhood days. While there his father passed away, and in October, 1917, the family returned, via Christiania and New York City, and upon arriving in the Golden State expressed themselves as more pleased than ever with California and especially Fresno County. Mr. Laugesen is highly respected in the community of Rolinda.

CHRISTEN A. PILEGARD.—One of the best known Danish-Americans in Fresno County is Christen A. Pilegard, a native of Fyen, Denmark, where he was born November 1, 1873. His intelligence, probity and energy command the respect of both Danish and American friends.

Educated in the public schools of Denmark and brought up and confirmed in the Lutheran faith, he grew up and worked on his father's forty-acre farm at Fyen, Denmark, until he attained the age of nineteen, when he bade farewell to his relatives and the friends of his youth and sailed from Helsingfors, Sweden, on the Steamship "Virginia," of the old Scandia line, landing at old Castle Garden, New York, the latter part of April, 1893. He arrived at Chicago the day the World's Columbian Exposition opened, and came direct to Fresno, where he arrived May 5, 1893, and went to work with his brother George, remaining with him about five years. He then made a visit to his old Danish home to see his parents. His father, who was very ill and not expected to live, died January 29, 1899, two months after Christen arrived at his old home. His mother, who was still living, remained on the old home in Denmark until she died in 1902 at the age of seventy. The father, who was highly respected in his native country, was a member of King Frederick the Seventh's body guard and held that position of trust and honor in Denmark.

Christen returned to Oleander in 1899 and bought forty acres of land for a home. He subsequently added to this by the purchase of twenty acres more. He sold twenty acres, and two subsequent sales of ten acres each reduced his holdings to twenty acres, the area of his home ranch at present. He has bought and sold several places. In 1908 he purchased the twenty acres just east of Bowles. In 1911 he built a beautiful residence on Maple Avenue about midway between Bowles and Oleander.

April 18, 1906, he was united in marriage with Miss Marian Beck, daughter of Chris. M. and Johanna (Schmidt) Beck, who are now living on Mr. Pilegard's place near Oleander. Mr. and Mrs. Pilegard are the parents of two children, Edith and Carl by name.

For the past thirteen years Mr. Pilegard has held the responsible position of Treasurer of the Pacific United Danish Lutheran Church, serving in this position with credit to himself and satisfaction to all. He and his excellent wife and family are highly respected and noted for their extensive hospitality.

Mr. Pilegard is a member of the Raisin Growers Association, the Peach Growers Association, and the Danish Creamery; in politics he affiliates with the Republican party. He is a typical representative of the Danish-American citizen and is considered one of the most substantial and reliable men of the section.

WILLIAM DRON.—Prominent among those who have long worked for the development and advancement of Fresno County, and a man well known for his present untiring efforts to better the conditions and increase the happiness of its people, is William Dron, not only an adopted son, but a Californian who had the good fortune, when first coming to this state in the late eighties, to settle here, in Central California, the most favored of all localities. He was born at Dollar, in Scotland, in 1883, and when four years of age came with his parents to Fresno. Here, then, he was reared and here he received his education in the excellent public schools of the neighborhood; and after he was graduated from the Fresno High School, he entered the employ of Balfour, Guthrie & Co., in Fresno, as a grain-buyer, and worked for them both in that city and in various parts of the San Joaquin Valley.

In 1904 he was transferred to Oilfields and their oil company, the California Oilfields, Ltd., as a bookkeeper; and later taking up work in the operating department, he learned the drilling of wells and the actual production of oil, serving as tool-dresser and driller. He spent six years in the operating and gaging department, when he was again transferred and made head of the traffic department. About August, 1913, the Shell Company of California took over the California Oilfields, Ltd., but he did not allow the change of proprietorship to sever him from a region and activity in which he had become deeply interested. He has continued, therefore, with this concern which has more and more attained to national importance.

At Los Angeles, Mr. Dron was married to Miss Ocie Evans, once popular in social circles of Washington, Pa., and Mr. and Mrs. Dron enjoy the esteem of their many friends in Oilfields.

Such a life-story as the foregoing is worthy of record, for not alone has California been in need of just such men, in her development as one of the greatest commonwealths, but some of the sturdiest, brainiest and highest-principled of her adopted sons and daughters have come from Bonnie Scotland, bringing with them valued gifts for the making of a new and an ideal land.

WILSON KINNEY.—One of the earliest settlers of rapidly-developed Coalinga, and among the best known of all the sturdy pioneers in the San Joaquin Valley, is Wilson Kinney who, with his wife, enjoys the esteem of a large circle of friends. Mr. Kinney was born in Ohio on November 28, far back in 1847, but from his ninth year was raised in Shelby County, Ill., on a middle-west farm. At that time the country was wild and barren, in fact it was little less than a wilderness; so that when he grew old enough to rent land and farm for himself, he found it hard work of the most genuine sort.

In 1875 Mr. Kinney removed to Ralls County, Mo., and there, in New London, he conducted a store and a restaurant. Three years later, he pushed still further West, to Black Hawk, Colo., and later he settled at Leadville, where he undertook teaming to the mines. There, also, conditions were wild and enterprise difficult; but such had been Mr. Kinney's training in the past,



Wm. H. Brown

fortunately, in parts of our great country also in the making, that he came to the great gold and silver regions by no means a tenderfoot, and was able to dare and do when others might have failed.

In 1882, Mr. Kinney made one more removal and landed in California, where he at once chose Fresno County as his location. For five years he engaged in farming near Kingston, and then he bought one-half of section 29 of railroad land in the Coalinga district. He improved the land and farmed it to grain for eight years.

In 1895 Mr. Kinney located at Coalinga, when the town was just starting. He built the Grand Central Hotel and livery stable, and conducted the same for many years. He applied to all his operations the golden rule, and so became one of the best-known men in the Coalinga district. For many years he gave his time and best attention, as a school trustee, to educational progress.

For three years he absented himself from Coalinga. He had been prevailed upon to remove to Redwood City, and he threw himself heart and soul into business undertakings there; but in 1905, the more imperative call to the town in which he had had his greatest success, and some of his friendliest associations led him to return to Coalinga, and here he has been living since.

Now he and his wife are retired from active labors, and live quietly, the center of one attention or another from their several children, Mr. Kinney having married, in 1873, in Shelby County, Ill., Cynthia Field, who was born in Gibson County, Ind., in 1853, but moved to Illinois. William J. Kinney, the oldest son, was born in Illinois, but lives at Coalinga, and is the father of two children. Charles L., who was born in Colorado, is married, has one child, and lives at Taft. Arthur W., also a native of Colorado, is now a farmer in Nevada. Albert E., a native son, was once a bookkeeper in the First National Bank of Coalinga and later located in Oklahoma, and from that state he enlisted as a sergeant in the United States Army. A daughter, the fifth in order of birth, is Mrs. Carrie B. Whitmer; she was born in California, and has one child. The youngest of the family is Robert H., who is a native son, is married and has one child, and is a resident of Richmond, Cal.

ARTHUR HOWARD McCOY.—A skilled pharmacist who has won an enviable reputation and who is a worker for the best interests of Kerman, is Arthur Howard McCoy, a native son who manages the Kerman Pharmacy with its extensive stock of medicines and drugs, and kindred lines. He was born near Campbell Station, Santa Clara County, on December 28, 1880. His father was Reuben McCoy, a native of Knoxville, Tenn., who outfitted at St. Joseph and crossed the plains with ox teams in 1849, and at first followed mining; then he bought a ranch from the Mexican Government and started in to develop it. Six months later, however, there was a change of government, and he was compelled to buy it a second time. It is near what is now Campbell Station, and he had 320 acres of grain and stock, the whole forming a very attractive ranch. There he lived and labored until he died, in 1885.

Arthur's mother, Ellen England before her marriage, was born at Steelville, Crawford County, Mo., and was early left an orphan, and in 1856 she crossed the plains with friends. She was married to Mr. McCoy at Santa Clara. On the death of her husband, she continued, with the aid of her children, to manage her place, and made a specialty of horticulture, and she still has 117 acres of prunes. In October, 1917, she reached the age of seventy-three, and is one of the oldest members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Among her memories are those of a classmate, Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst, with whom she went to school and who has since become so famous. She was the mother of four boys and one girl: John A. is on the home farm; William Orville lives at Oakland; George Stirling is in Saratoga; Laura Elizabeth has become Mrs. E. O. Fellows, of Santa Clara County; and Arthur Howard, our subject.

Arthur H. attended school at Moreland, and later went to the Los Gatos High School; and at Los Gatos and Gilroy he had seven years' experience in the drug business. Then he entered the University of California and was graduated from the pharmaceutic department in 1905 with the degree of Ph.C. He was a member of the Phi Chi and was president of his class during the senior year.

Thus equipped, Mr. McCoy took a position as pharmacist with the Bowman Drug Company in San Francisco, and there remained until the great fire of 1906 burned them out. After that he became the buyer for Wakelee in San Francisco, and then manager of their store in the western addition. When he resigned, it was to remove to Porterville, where he was pharmacist for a couple of years with Todd C. Claubes. Once more he resigned, this time to come to Kerman, arriving here on May 12, 1917. He bought the store of T. C. Peters, and continued the drug business, developing it also as the chief agency in Kerman for San Francisco papers, magazines and other metropolitan supplies.

While in San Francisco, Mr. McCoy was married to Miss Lela Bell Gard, a native of Cobb Valley, Lake County, Cal. Mr. McCoy is a charter member of Porterville Lodge, No. 1342, B. P. O. Elks; he was made a Mason in Keith Lodge, No. 187, F. & A. M., at Gilroy, and is still a member there. Both Mr. and Mrs. McCoy are welcome members of the Order of the Eastern Star of Kerman. Mr. McCoy is a member of the Kerman Chamber of Commerce.

MRS. CARRIE PILEGARD.—Living on a ranch of the late George Pilegard, one and a quarter miles north of Bowles, in the Oleander district, Mrs. Carrie Pilegard presents an exalted example of widowed motherhood by keeping up the Pilegard home—bringing to bear the qualities that make a most excellent housekeeper and homemaker, as well as conservative business head.

Her husband died on the ranch September 22, 1906, and is buried in the Washington Cemetery. He was born at Fyen, Denmark, December 13, 1860, and grew up on his father's forty-acre farm in Denmark. Educated in the Danish public schools, young George was brought up in the tenets of the Lutheran faith and confirmed at the age of fourteen. At twenty-three years of age he sought a wider field for his energies and embarked for the shores of America. His first stop in the new land was at Marshalltown, Iowa, where he worked on a farm for one year. From thence he came to California and worked on the flume at Enterprise, Madera County. He was with the Flume and Lumber Company two years, and was employed a part of that time in making shakes. While working there he was united in marriage with Karen Nielsen Krog, daughter of Niels Hansen Krog and Annie Katrina (Christensen) Krog, natives of Fyen, Denmark, and the owners of a fifty-acre farm in that place and country. Her parents lived and died at Fyen, Denmark, the father attaining the advanced age of ninety-three before his demise, and the mother living to be eighty-three.

George Pilegard and Karen Nielsen Krog were schoolmates in Denmark and were betrothed before young George came to America. In 1885 Karen Krog started for America to link her destiny with that of George Pilegard. After their marriage they lived in what is now Madera County from July 4th to December, 1886. Hearing of the fertile lands and the reasonable price of land in the Washington Colony at Oleander, a friend induced them to buy forty acres of land there. They built a small house with their own hands, began to improve the property and were happy in their new home. Eight children were born to them. Their oldest child died in infancy. Andrew, the oldest living child, is a fruit buyer and lives in Fresno. He married Lilly Kringel and they are the parents of one child, Helen Katrina by name. A daughter named Anna Katrina, died in infancy. Another daughter of the

same name, Anna Katrina, graduated as a trained nurse from the Burnett Sanitarium at Fresno, and is now a Red Cross nurse in France. Christine also graduated from the same sanitarium and is likewise a Red Cross nurse in France. The sixth child, Karen Marie, died in infancy. George, who is seventeen, attends the high school at Easton, and Carrie, the youngest of the family, is also a student at Easton high school.

George Pilegard improved land and sold property several times, and at the time of his death the home ranch comprised eighty acres. Mrs. Pilegard sold twenty acres of the property to her son Andrew, retaining sixty acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Pilegard were among the prime movers in the organization of the Danish Lutheran Church at Easton, Cal., of which they were faithful members and consistent Christians. Mrs. Pilegard is a tireless Sunday School teacher and worker. She is a hospitable, generous, public-spirited woman, and both she and her children are prime favorites in the community. Her husband, a pioneer of the Oleander section, was looked up to as the leader among the Danes in the Washington Colony in Fresno County, Cal., during his lifetime.

JOSEPH E. GRUWELL.—A man who is fully qualified to bring about the best results in road-making is Joseph E. Gruwell, a native son, born in Lakeport, Lake County, Cal., February 25, 1870. He is a descendant of an old pioneer family, his grandfather, Jacob Gruwell, having been a member of the California Assembly in the days when the state was new, from Santa Clara County, having crossed the plains in ox team train. His father located northeast of Hanford in 1875, where he owned an eighty-acre ranch, and where he made his home all the years up to his death July 4, 1913. J. E. Gruwell received his education in Eureka school district, in Kings County, when he was with his father. He later went to work for the Clark Brothers as ranch foreman. This firm engaged in farming on a large scale, having 3,500 acres of land. In those early days Mr. Gruwell worked with ten eight-horse plow teams and four drill teams. For six years he stayed with this firm, at the end of which time he homesteaded a quarter section of land in the Weed Patch country, Kern County, proving up in five years and returned to Kings County, where he farmed the Burris ranch, renting a quarter section nine miles northeast of Hanford, raising grain and stock. He next bought forty acres of raw land eight miles northeast of Hanford, which he improved with orchard, later disposing of this and locating in Coalinga in 1909. Here he opened a blacksmith shop on Forest Avenue, and put in all the machinery and improvements necessary for a modern shop, which he sold the same year. He then started and operated the largest stage line to the oil fields—four machines, including a twenty-five passenger White truck.

In 1914 he received the appointment of superintendent of roads. Here was his opportunity, and he has made many improvements in the roads in this district. He opened up the road from Coalinga to Kings County known as Lost Hills roads. A dirt grade road to the county line completed the road system between Coalinga and Huron. The Stratford road to Kings County line opened up direct communication with graded roads to all the above named points. Also improved the Coalinga-Fresno road with a dirt grade. He uses a Holt seventy-five horsepower tractor for road working and a Jeffries truck for hauling.

Mr. Gruwell invested in a corner lot in Coalinga on east E Street, where he built four houses which bring him in a good income. He was married in Hanford to Kate Barton, who was born in Eldorado County, Cal. She is a member of the Christian Church. Her father is H. D. Barton, who was a former supervisor of Kings County.

H. P. STEITZ, JR.—A business man who now presides over large affairs and who has been successful since he cast his lines in Fresno and who is deeply interested in the growth and development of the county, is H. P. Steitz, Jr., who was born at Skadofsky, Samara, Russia, on June 29, 1875, the son of H. P. Steitz, who was a farmer there, who married Catherine Elizabeth Doos, and brought his wife and four children to Fresno in 1891. For some years he followed a business career and is now Deputy County Assessor. He is also engaged in the real estate business, and his wife enjoys life with him at their Lilly Avenue home.

H. P. Steitz, Jr., is the oldest of the family, and was so well educated at the public and higher schools in his native land that he studied English at Saratof. This quickened his interest in the New World, and he was quite wide-awake when he arrived in Fresno on December 12, 1891. He attended night school for a time and then leased, with his father as partner, the Dr. Mukes vineyard. Later he worked for wages at viticulture, and next went to Del Rey and set out a vineyard for Mr. Nutting, receiving for his labor the title to twenty acres. He is a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company.

On July 1, 1895, Mr. Steitz was married to Miss Eliza Schwabenland, also a native of Russia. He owns a comfortable residence at 2030 California Avenue as well as other valuable city property; and eight children enjoy with their devoted parents the blessings of an American home. They are Edward, Leo, William, and Ida, all of whom assist the father in business, and Meda, Albert, Elma, and Allen.

After devoting himself to viticulture for many years, Mr. Steitz on December 24, 1909, began his mercantile career, opening a general merchandise business on South F Street under the firm name of Kinzel & Steitz. In January, 1919, however, he sold out his interest to his partner and later built his new store at 2038 California Avenue. He has a floor space 66 x 100 feet in size, and the firm is known as H. P. Steitz & Sons, his three sons now sharing the partnership.

Mr. Steitz is a member of the Free Cross Lutheran Church of Fresno, in which he has been a trustee. He is a member of the Eagles.

JOSEPH L. PRATHER.—Prominent among those identified with the agricultural development of California is Joseph L. Prather. He was born near Greensboro, N. C., on July 18, 1833, the son of Rev. Robert R. Prather, a planter, and a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Joseph's great-grandfather was born in England and crossed the ocean to North Carolina, where he became a planter. When the Civil War broke out, he served in the Confederate Army, defending the principles he believed to be right; in 1862, he was married to Miss Mary Hedrick, who was born near Lexington, N. C., in 1846, and was the daughter of Joseph Hedrick, a North Carolinian planter, whose father fought in the Revolutionary War. In the fall of 1865 Joseph Prather brought his family to Missouri, and in 1867 he took up his residence near Waco, Texas, where he was a farmer.

In June, 1872, the Prathers removed to California and Mr. Prather located a claim in the Mussel Slough country near Grangeville and also bought some railroad land. He helped build the canal and ditches, and gave an effective hand to opening up the country. However, he was fortunate in selling out before the Mussel Slough troubles, after which he removed to Wild Flower in Fresno County. It was the time of the building of the emigrant ditch, and he speedily located a claim and improved it, selling out at the end of eight years. He removed to Orange County, and commenced to farm and raise stock near Santa Ana; but eighteen months later he returned to Fresno County.

Then he located on 160 acres of railroad land thirteen miles south of Fresno that he had purchased, farmed and set out a vineyard; but the dry



For Graceborn Francica Graceborn.

year and low prices of 1893 caused such heavy losses that he had to sacrifice his place. Since then he and his wife live retired, making their home with their sons on the ranch near Prather Post Office in Auberry Valley, which beautiful region takes its name from this pioneer family. Mr. Prather is now eighty-five years old, while his wife is seventy-two years of age, the mother of eleven children, nine of whom have grown to maturity: Joseph Everette Prather, with his brother Fred, owns the Prather ranch in Auberry Valley, but he is employed as a driller in the oil fields. John N. runs the Prather Brothers Lodge ranch. Bessie is Mrs. Trautwein of Fresno. Birdie died at the age of twenty. Allie is Mrs. Webb of Oakland; Richard is a blacksmith in Waco; Robert resides in Fresno; Lonnie is Mrs. Chas. E., of Albuquerque, N. M.; Fred is in the aviation section of the United States Signal Corps. Joseph E. and Fred Prather came to Auberry Valley about seven years ago, and bought this ranch, and two years later they began their improvements. They were joined by their brother, John N., who now runs the place. The latter from a lad was brought up to understand viticulture; and he also spent some time in the oil fields and at McKittrick, where he became a stationary engineer. All the five brothers are good mechanics, two of them having specialized in the steam engine, and three with the gas engine.

The Prather Brothers ranch comprises 440 acres in Auberry Valley, is well improved with two bungalows and other farm buildings, and is known as the "Lodge." It is watered by the Big Sandy, and the post office is located on the ranch. There fruit culture and general farming are carried on. There is a fine commercial apple orchard of forty-five acres, and the boys are setting out other varieties. The family attend the Methodist Church South, and are factors in the social and religious development of the neighborhood.

JOE YRACEBURU.—A farmer and stockman who, with his partners, raised large quantities of grain and became prosperous and even well-to-do and who, because of his natural patriotism, thought there was no country equal to the land of the Stars and the Stripes, was Joe Yraceburu, a native of Uris, in Navarra, Spain, where he was born on February 21, 1880. His father, Joseph Yraceburu, was a farmer and grape and wine merchant who bought his grapes and wine in Spain and hauled them over the Pyrenees to Basses-Pyrenees, France, and there sold what he had. He had six boys and two girls; and just half of these came out to California.

Joe, the oldest, attended the public schools until he was fourteen, and then he drove a team for his father, and helped generally throughout his teens. For years he had heard reports from California, and when twenty he concluded to see for himself.

On October 16, 1900, he left home and eventually sailed from Havre for New York; and arriving on the Pacific Coast, he made his way to Coalinga, which he reached on November 6th. He worked for Matias Erro for two years, then a year for Antonio Urrutia, who made him foreman of stock, and having by that time saved some money, he determined to engage in business for himself. He bought a flock of yearlings, at four dollars a head and, with a partner, leased land from the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, somewhat north of Coalinga, and then for several years they operated in San Benito County with success. Having dissolved the partnership, he continued sheep-raising for himself.

Mr. Yraceburu next leased a ranch at Cantua, which he used for his sheep, his flocks including Merinos and Shropshires. He raised barley at Mendota, and with two partners had over one thousand acres of flourishing grain. In partnership with M. Urrutia and his brother Santos, he engaged in raising grain in Madera County, and there he had 1,850 acres planted to wheat, barley and rye.

At Fresno, in 1906, Mr. Yraceburu was married to Miss Frances Erro, a fair daughter of Spain, who came to America, and to Fresno, in 1902, and she

became the mother of their six children, four girls and two boys: Mary, Manu-elita, Helena, Manuel, Elisa, and Joe.

Mr. Yraceburu was a Republican in national politics, always working for the best measures for the nation, the state and the community; and in frat-ernal life he was a member of the Eagles. Mr. Yraceburu passed away on November 10, 1918, mourned by his family and friends. Since then his wife has bravely taken up his work and continues to carry on her husband's busi-ness according to his plans, in which she is aided by her husband's two broth-ers, Santos and Jose. So she is ably rearing their six children to whom she is giving the best educational advantages within her means.

ALEXANDER SIME.—A gentleman who has been in positions of trust ever since he was a young man, and whose valuable experience in the world was derived in part during three years spent in South America and many years in Iowa, where for several years he was the manager of a bonanza farm, is Alexander Sime, the well-known capitalist, rancher and business man of Laton.

Mr. Sime was born in the parish of Tannadice, County of Forfar, twenty-three miles northeast of Dundee, Scotland, on June 10, 1844, the son of James and Mary (Robbie) Sime, both of whom were highly esteemed for their good, old-fashioned virtues. His father was a farmer, who owned about eighty acres, all of which he brought to a very high state of cultivation. The couple had two children who reached maturity; and of these two, Alexander was the oldest. A sister, Mary Ann, died in Australia and left a husband and four children. Mr. Sime's mother died when he was twenty years old. The father married again and had four children—two sons and two daughters: Alice Maud lives near London and is the wife of John Fry; Helen M. resides near Dundee; Colin Dedrick, who was a carpenter and builder, died at Dundee and left two children; and David Simpson is a military man, in the Govern-ment service, having been a captain in the Boer War, where he was popularly known as "young Kitchener."

Alexander attended the parochial schools in the Established or Presby-terian Church of Scotland, and in 1868, when he was nearly twenty-four years of age, he migrated to the Argentine Republic, where he helped to manage Ogilvy Brothers' sheep ranch. When he returned to Scotland in 1870 and sailed up the Mersey to Liverpool, he received the first news of the Franco-Prussian War. He stayed in Scotland a couple of winters and then entered the office of the Caledonian Railway Company, in Glasgow, as bookkeeper.

In 1872, Mr. Sime came out to the United States and settled about nine miles north of Lincoln, Nebr., where he bought a piece of railway land, at the same time renting other acreage, which he farmed to corn and small grain. He continued there from 1872 to 1878, when he returned to Scotland.

On February 28, 1878, Mr. Sime was married to Miss Helen Brown McPherson, the youngest daughter of John McPherson, a sheep-farmer of Glen-prosen, who had married Annie Brown. They had nine children; but Mrs. Sime is the only one living. She was educated for a while in the public schools; but in her ninth year was sent to a private academy at Dundee, where she received a first-class classical and vocal training.

After his marriage, Mr. Sime remained in Scotland for three years, run-ning traction engines and other portable and traction farm machinery. In 1881, however, Mr. and Mrs. Sime and their eight-months-old baby returned to America and settled in Palo Alto County, Iowa, on the Blairgowrie farm, near Emmetsburg. This farm was made up of several sections, in Palo Alto, Pocahontas, and Algona counties, and comprised some 30,000 acres owned by John Adamson of Careston Castle, Forfarshire, Scotland. It was originally railroad land bought by John Adamson in the late sixties, and owned by him until his death, when it was leased by his only child, William Shaw A. Adam-son, who made Capt. William E. G. Saunders his general agent with full

power of attorney. He became one of the leading spirits in the settling up of the Laguna de Tache Ranch of 48,000 acres in the southern part of Fresno County, which he bought in partnership with L. A. Nares of Fresno in 1899.

Mr. Sime continued to manage the Blairgowrie farm in Iowa from 1881 to 1886; and in the latter year he bought an interest in a carriage factory at Emmetsburg, Iowa—the Skinner Manufacturing Company, of which he was secretary and treasurer. Two years later he sold out his interest and went south to Hall County, Texas, in the Panhandle country, where he engaged in the real estate business in partnership with N. C. Blanchard, now of Laton. In 1891 this partnership was dissolved, and then he began farming on his own section of land in Texas, continuing to manage it until 1903. In that year he came to Laton, and he has been here ever since, growing prosperous, influential, and helpful to the community.

In partnership with C. A. Smith, cashier of the First National Bank of Laton, Mr. Sime owns a farm of 140 acres one-half mile east of Laton, and this is managed by the subject as a stock and dairy ranch. He also owns a quarter interest in the Laton Lumber Company.

Mr. and Mrs. Sime live in a very comfortable home, which they built in 1904 on Mt. Whitney Avenue. They have been the parents of two children, one of whom, James, was brought to the United States when he was eight months old and died in Iowa in his fourth year. The other son, Edwin Spencer, was a foreman at the Montezuma Copper Mine in Mexico. He has been in Mexico for the past ten years engaged in mining during which time he has been home on a visit to see his father and mother three times. He became largely interested in mining in Mexico, and was driven out three times on account of revolutionary troubles. For three years of this time he held a very responsible position with the Montezuma Copper Mines, but resigned that position in order to engage in the cattle business in the state of Sonora, about January 1, 1919. Mr. Sime is a member of the Laton Lodge, No. 148, I. O. O. F., and has been through the chair. Mrs. Sime is a member of the Red Cross and a willing teacher of fancy knitting, since she knows all the intricate meshes of Scotland; she has recently received a certificate from the United States Government and a beautiful golden service-pin from co-workers in recognition of 2,235 hours' work in behalf of the Laton Branch of the Red Cross; the family partake of the Presbyterian communion.

E. R. SPEAR.—Among the successful business men of Coalinga is E. R. Spear, of the well known firm of Spear Brothers' Automobile Company. He is a man of ability, popular in automobile circles, and his friends predict for him a business future of even greater success. E. R. Spear was born in the Blue Grass State, August 26, 1886, at Tompkinsville, near Bowling Green, Ky., a son of L. D. and Virginia (Thompson) Spear, both natives of Kentucky, the father being the descendant of an old Virginia family, the mother of English ancestry. L. D. Spear was a farmer and stockman, and still resides in Kentucky, near Bowling Green. Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Spear were the parents of ten children, eight boys and two girls: E. R., the subject of this review; Thompson N., a partner with his brother E. R. in the automobile business, and who is serving in the United States Army; Bert, a partner with E. R. in the automobile business at Hanford; Pearl, now Mrs. Dozier, who resides at Coalinga; Benton and McKinley, both in the United States Army; and Beecham, Bennett, Susie, and Buster, with their parents in the "Old Kentucky Home."

E. R. Spear received his early education in the public schools of Kentucky and remained at home assisting his father on the farm until he was twenty-one years of age, when he became possessed of a desire to see the great West. He first went to Indiana, then moved on to Illinois, and later went to Texas and New Mexico, seeking an advantageous location. In November, 1908, he came to Fresno County, where he and his brother Thompson secured

employment on a ranch at Wheatville, where they remained until the spring of 1909, when they located at Coalinga. Both boys went to work in the oil-fields. Thompson became an oil-driller, remaining six years with the K.T.&O., which is now the Southern Pacific Oil Company; E. R. Spear continued in the oil-field until December, 1914, when he returned to Coalinga, and opened an automobile and garage business under the name of Spear Brothers Auto Company, the firm consisting of E. R. and his brother T. N. The first year's gross business amounted to seventy-five thousand dollars. So successfully did they conduct their business affairs, that in October, 1916, E. R. Spear, with his brothers T. N. and Bert, opened a salesroom and garage in Hanford. They are agents for Dodge, Buick, Chandler and Velie automobiles. Since Thompson Spear left to join the colors his interests in Hanford have been looked after by his brother Bert.

While E. R. Spear was still working in the oil-fields, he displayed his aptitude as a salesman by taking orders, at night, for made-to-order suits, representing S. H. Churchill and M. L. Obendorf, merchant tailors of Chicago, and during three years he sold 395 suits. During this time E. R. and Thompson Spear saved their money and purchased a farm of 367 acres located near Bowling Green, Ky., which place they still own and which is operated by their father.

E. R. Spear was united in marriage with Miss Pearl E. McCannon, a native of Pennsylvania, the ceremony occurring on October 15, 1913, at Fresno, Cal. Mr. Spear is a member of the Eagles and of the American Automobile Association.

DALE ROSE.—An unusually enterprising and public-spirited man, broad of view and kind and liberal in his impulses, is Dale Rose, the farmer and stockman, who was the first man in this part of the county to sow Soudan grass, and who has long been one of the most successful raisers of that valuable commodity. He was born in Missouri City, Clay County, Mo., on May 8, 1872. His father, W. R. Rose, was a native of Wisconsin and moved to Missouri, where he married Isabelle Rose, a lady bearing the same name but of no relation prior to the marriage. He was a stockdealer and died two weeks after our subject was born.

Mrs. Rose married a second time, this time linking her fortunes with Byron D. Ballard of Iowa. He had crossed the plains in early days with ox teams, and for a while was engaged in the sheep business in Tulare County. Then he returned to Missouri, married and brought his wife, with Dale, the only child by the first marriage, to California in 1873. They came to Kern County, and making his headquarters at Bakersfield, Mr. Ballard engaged in the sheep business in Kern and Tulare Counties. Two children were born to them. When he died in the latter county, Mrs. Ballard moved to Burroughs Valley, Fresno County, where she continued stockraising; and later she came to Auberry Valley, where she married T. J. Patterson, a stockman of Tulare. She passed away in 1900.

Dale was reared in California and educated at the public schools in Kern and Tulare counties, and having completed his studies when he was fifteen, he took up the stock business, rode the range and learned to rope and brand cattle. After a while he engaged in teaming to Nevada and back, and at one time in Nevada he drove a team of eighteen mules.

Mr. Rose's next venture was mining and prospecting, and he was one of the first to work on the Laurel Diggings, near Summit, where he was so successful that he put in hydraulic power. Once more he rode the range, and for a year he was in the assay office at Fresno, where he formed a partnership with Charles Knepper, discoverer of the Copper King Mine.

Having married in 1898 at Madera, when he chose for his bride Miss Menga Marks, a native of Mariposa County, he rented a ranch in the Auberry Valley and set himself up in the stock business, raising cattle and hay.

He also engaged in teaming. In 1905 he purchased his present place on the Fresno and Auberry road, twenty-three miles northeast of Fresno; and having added to it from time to time, he now has 480 acres in a body. On about 100 acres he raises wheat, making a specialty of the golden gamma, or dry land wheat; all of which he sells for seed. His range is the Jose Basin which has about 6,000 acres; and for a brand he uses the novel device of a hat and an inverted hat, joined together on a level. Mr. Rose is an active member of the California Cattlemen's Association.

Three children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Rose. Isabelle Ruth is a graduate of Clovis High, now attending Heald's Business College; Warren M., also a graduate of the high school at Clovis, is freighting with an auto truck; and Gilbert F. is in Clovis High. Mr. Rose himself has always been a staunch advocate of better educational advantages for the majority, and for several terms he has been trustee of the Millerton school, in the oldest school district in the county. In national politics he is a Democrat.

JOHN T. CHAMBERS.—Few families have a more interesting pioneer history than that of the Chambers family, of which John T. is the son, born three miles from Olympia, Wash., March 16, 1862. His father, Thomas Jackson Chambers, was born in Tennessee, in the same house where his cousin, ex-President Andrew Jackson, had lived, when twenty-one years of age. Thomas J. Chambers crossed the plains in 1845, with his father, Thomas C., a brother of David J., and a large party of friends and relatives; on the first stage of their journey they reached Spanish Hollow, Mo. While there other families joined them and the large party started across the plains to the Pacific Coast, Thomas J. Chambers being Captain of the train of fifteen wagons, with two yoke of cattle to each wagon, and other loose live stock. They forded every stream between the Missouri and Columbia Rivers, and saw many herds of buffalo en route. At Fort Hall those of the company going to California turned south and the others kept on the way north, via the Lewis and Clark trail. They arrived at The Dalles, Ore., October 27, 1845, and started down the Columbia River in boats. Later, they started for Puget Sound, in the fall of 1847, journeying down the Willamette River and stopping en route at Portland, which then consisted of six houses. At last they arrived at Olympia, Wash., where they found one log cabin. They later located at Chambers Prairie, three miles east of Olympia. The old linchpin emigrant wagon used by the Chambers family crossing the plains was exhibited at the Alaska-Yukon Exposition in Seattle and is now in the Portland Museum. The Chambers family also brought the first hall-clock and dressing-table to the state of Washington.

In 1849 Thomas J. Chambers came to California and followed mining on the American River, later returning to Washington where he also located on Chambers Prairie, engaging in farming. He served in the Indian War in Washington. In 1867 he located at Yakima where he resided until his death in 1913, at eighty-six years of age. His wife was America McAllister, born in Kentucky; she had crossed the plains with her parents in the pioneer days to Washington, where she resided until her death. Of their seven children, John T. is the youngest and was born on Chambers Prairie and educated in the public schools of Yakima, assisting his father at stock-raising.

At the age of seventeen, John T. Chambers began for himself, coming to California in 1879, and working on a ranch near Sutterville for a time. He next engaged in gold-mining on the San Joaquin River. In 1880 he came to Fresno and for one year drove a team, hauling freight to Pine Ridge. He then worked for Mr. Blasingame in the stock business, and later drove a ten-horse team over the mountains. From that he drifted into the cattle business and has been engaged in that line of business ever since. He owns 160 acres of grazing land near Sycamore, Fresno County, and ranges about 400 head of cattle, turning off 125 head yearly. He has made his home in Fresno since 1914, having served for two years as constable, at Academy.

Mr. Chambers' marriage, in 1884, united him with Jane Elizabeth Perry, a native of Fresno County, born in Centerville, a daughter of Peter and Amanda (Lowrey) Perry, the father being a native of North Carolina, and related to Commodore Perry, and the mother a native of Tennessee. Peter Perry was married in 1857 and crossed the plains to California with the party which was massacred at Mountain Meadow. The party was divided into two trains, each taking a different route, and he was the captain of the train which escaped the Indians. He settled on Kings River, near Centerville, Fresno County, and engaged in stock-raising. His death occurred in 1876, while his wife died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chambers in Fresno, on March 23, 1919.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Chambers seven children are now living, as follows: Wayne, ranching on Pine Ridge; Eleanor, the wife of H. A. Savage, an attorney of Fresno; Nellie, the wife of E. F. Brieger, of Tehachapi; Annie Laurie is Mrs. Howard Perry, of Fresno; Belle Elizabeth, of Fresno; Ella, a graduate of Fresno High School, now attending Fresno State Normal School; and John, Jr., attending Fresno High School.

Fraternally, Mr. Chambers is a Woodman of the World, and an Odd Fellow. Mrs. Chambers recalls her childhood days in Fresno County, when, instead of the teeming city of Fresno, there was one vast plain over which roamed antelope and wild cattle.

CHARLES HENRY RICHARDSON.—A successful California dairyman who once dwelt at the other end of the great American continent, where he was equally prosperous in raising potatoes in the fruitful fields of Aroostook County, Maine, is Charles Henry Richardson, one of Fresno's prosperous ranchmen. He was born at Solon, Somerset County, on May 14, 1864, and his father was Levi G. Richardson, also a native of Solon, who came from a Yankee family extending generations back. The Richardsons came from England and settled at Woburn, Mass., taking a prominent part in the Revolutionary War. Levi Richardson was a school teacher, but about 1878 moved to Fort Fairfield, Aroostook County, Maine, there to engage in the raising of potatoes; while there he continued to teach school. He died in that place in his sixty-fifth year.

Mrs. Levi G. Richardson was Elmira Jackson before her marriage, and she also was born at Solon, a member of one of the old Maine families. After a while she came to California; but she spent less than a year here, and then she returned to Maine, where she now resides at the old homestead. She was the mother of three children, two girls and a boy; of whom Charles is the oldest and the only one in California.

He was reared at Solon on the Kennebec River, and from a lad took charge of the farm, at the same time that he attended the public school. He thus not only acquired the A B C's of agricultural experience, but what was to be of inestimable value in later years, he learned to rely upon himself. In 1878 he removed to Fort Fairfield where his parents bought 120 acres of land, eleven acres of which was cleared, and the balance timbered. Each year they cleared and burned up such a part that they soon had about eighty acres under cultivation. He had charge of the home place, and in common with many in that section, father and son raised potatoes as a specialty.

Through reading, Charles became interested in California; and being attracted to the state because of the reported mildness of its climate, he came to California in 1905 and was so satisfied with what he saw that he sold his eastern home and settled here. He did not choose Fresno County however until he had first traveled the state and had become convinced that Central California offered more to the square mile than any other part. He then bought land in the Houghton district, now Roosevelt, his first place being two miles west of his present homestead. It was an alfalfa ranch, and he ran it for a year, but thinking he could do still better, he bought, in 1906,

his present place, which consists of eighty acres on McKinley Avenue, situated ten miles northwest of Fresno. Having disposed of the other property, he has devoted this to dairying and the raising of alfalfa. The soil is excellent, and is well irrigated, being under the Herndon canal, the ranch also being equipped with a first-class pumping plant run by electric power and having a five-inch pump. He is also interested in sixty acres adjoining, which his son runs as a dairy.

While at Fort Fairfield, Mr. Richardson married Elizabeth Bloomfield, a native of the province of New Brunswick, by whom he has had five children: Marion L., who was in the Second California Infantry and served during the border trouble with Mexico. He was honorably discharged but when the great war was declared with Germany he enlisted and was in the Fortieth Division overseas. Since his discharge he has been ranching near the home place; Charles E., who also did his duty and was First Lieutenant in the Marine Corps attached to the second separate machine gun battalion, is also ranching in Fresno County; Otto B., who was a corporal in the 187th Company, United States Marine Corps, and is now in the general merchandise business at Rolinda, under the firm name of Houghton and Richardson; and Edith and Ruth. The family attend the United Presbyterian Church at Barstow, in which Mr. Richardson is a ruling elder; and they also do their civic duty under the banners of the Republican party, to which Mr. Richardson has belonged for years.

WILLIAM SHERMAN RICHMOND.—An enterprising orchardist and vineyardist who represents in his own family history one of the sturdy Americans who fought for the preservation of the Union, and whose wife is the direct descendant of an Ohio pioneer who once owned part of the site of Columbus, is William Sherman Richmond. He first came to California in the late eighties; and ever since he has been deeply interested and active in contributing toward the development of that part of the great state in which he cast his fortunes.

He was born in Memphis, Scotland County, Mo., on January 26, 1867, the son of Theodore W. Richmond, a native of Indiana, who came to Iowa, where he homesteaded. When the Civil War broke out, he raised a company and was elected captain of Company H of the Nineteenth Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He was present at the siege of Vicksburg, but was incapacitated by malaria for much service. After the war, he farmed in Scotland County, and there he died in his sixty-seventh year. His family was one of the old New York group and had its place in the history of the Empire State.

Mrs. Richmond was Elvira Irish before her marriage, and she was born in Indiana. Her parents came from Connecticut, and they originated with the old Mayflower stock. After a useful life she passed away in Missouri, the mother of ten children, six of whom are still living. Albert C. is in Texas County, Mo.; Kate has become Mrs. Bull of Kalispell, Mont.; Frank M. lives at Ogallala, Nebr.; Carrie resides in Fresno; and besides the subject of our sketch, there is Emmett G. Richmond, also of Fresno County.

Brought up on a farm in Missouri, William S. attended the public schools, including the grammar grade and the high school of Memphis, and when twenty-two came to California in 1889, settling in the vicinity of Reedley and Dinuba. Fresno was then a very small town. He went to work on the grain farm for Crow & Agee, and with them he continued for a couple of years. After that he returned to Missouri and followed farming with his father.

In 1902 he came once more to the West and going to Lawton, Okla., settled in the Comanche and Apache country, and bought a relinquishment claim and homesteaded 160 acres. He improved it and obtained a patent signed by President Roosevelt. In 1909 he sold the property at a good advance, and with the proceeds came on to California. He was not long in discovering the superiority of Fresno County, and bought a ranch of twenty

acres on Chittenden and Clinton Avenue in Roeding's Villa Colony; and there he engaged in horticulture. He set out peaches, apricots and a vineyard; then bought ten acres, added to that, and now he has twenty-five acres, all improved with a fine residence, comfortable barns and a desirable pumping plant. Besides peaches and apricots, he raises both Thompson and Malaga grapes. He is a member and stockholder in both the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company.

In Missouri, Mr. Richmond was married to Miss Linda Easterday, a native of that state and the daughter of Daniel Easterday, who was born at Columbus, Ohio, where her folks once owned much of the site of that city. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Richmond—Lucile and Virgil in Oklahoma, and Alvin in California. The family attend the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Fresno.

Mr. Richmond was made a Mason in Memphis Lodge No. 16, F. & A. M. in Memphis, Mo., and he is still affiliated there. In Oklahoma he was a trustee of the church, and superintendent of the Sunday School. He belongs to the Sons of Veterans and is a standpat Republican.

J. H. NELSON.—An interesting old settler in Fresno County, who can look back to such a part in laying the foundation for the chief city of Central California that, when the first railway locomotive puffed and snorted into Fresno, he was on hand to haul goods from the train to Tollhouse, and contended with such difficulties that he paid as high as twenty-five cents a bucket for water sold in the town, is J. H. Nelson, who came to California on September 13, 1859. He was born in Bearcreek, Cedar County, Mo., on Washington's birthday, 1854, the son of Len Edward Nelson, a native of Virginia, who was a marble-cutter by trade, but became a farmer. The father married Miss Nan Emmerson, who was born in Tennessee. In 1858 he started across the plains with his family of two children, and the usual ox teams. Arriving in Stockton, he set up for a year as a marble-cutter, and then he went to Sonora, continued to ply his trade and opened a marble yard.

The elder of the two children, J. H. Nelson, crossed the plains when he was four years of age, and then had the experience that he still remembers of wintering on the prairies. Settling with his folks in California, he went to school at Sonora, but at fifteen he was thrown upon his own resources. In 1869, he came to old Millerton to work for Uncle John Emmerson, who ran the old McCray Hotel, and he continued with him for about three years. In 1873, having worked awhile on a ranch at Centerville, he removed to Tollhouse, where a cousin, Joe Carter, ran a dairy on Pine Ridge; and he remained with him until 1874. Then he engaged in lumbering, and later worked in the saw mills; and for a season he ran a mill himself.

On June 7, 1882, Mr. Nelson was married at Tollhouse to Miss Phoebe Waite, who was born in Des Moines, Iowa, the daughter of T. A. Waite, a native of Ohio, who settled in Iowa as a farmer. Her mother was Mary J. Cavin before her marriage, and she was born in Ohio. In 1875, Mr. Waite brought his family to Fresno on account of his health, and located at Tollhouse, where he worked in the mill. The same year he was seriously hurt in an accident, and on June 18, 1876, he died. The mother also died there, leaving eight children, of whom Mrs. Nelson was the fourth eldest. She came to California in her eighth year, and attended the public school at Tollhouse.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Nelson engaged in the manufacture of shakes on Pine Ridge, which he hauled to Tollhouse and from there transported by teams to Fresno. In 1884, Mr. Nelson located a preemption of eighty acres at Tollhouse and improved the land, and in the summer time he made shakes on Pine Ridge. He set out an apple orchard on his home place, and later he bought eighty acres adjoining, and then had 160 acres on which he raised both stock and fruit. He used the brand I C, and he still continued



J. H. Nelson

to make shakes on Pine Ridge. He had five acres in some of the finest apple orchard to be seen in that vicinity.

In the fall of 1915 Mr. Nelson sold his ranch, and located near Clovis; and since then he has engaged in the scientific work of viticulture. He owns ten acres one and a half miles to the north of Clovis, which he has also set out in attractive vineyards.

Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, and have added to the social popularity of the family in the communities in which they have lived. Lee Edward is a carpenter near Clovis; Alice J., now Mrs. Burritt, resides at Oakland; Annie D. has become Mrs. R. N. Cobb, of Hoopa, Humboldt County; Laura M., now Mrs. Arthur Cate, resides at Clovis; Mary G., is a graduate of the Clovis High School, now studying for nurse at Burnett Sanitarium; and Edith A. attends Clovis High School. Mrs. Nelson is a member of the Methodist Church of Clovis, and Mr. Nelson is affiliated with the Woodmen of the World.

SHELL COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA.—To what extent, in the laying out and directing of a great enterprise, new and approved ideas as to the great value of sanitary methods and appliances and the importance of doing everything possible to make the laborer comfortable and happy, may be employed is well illustrated by the Shell Company of California, with their headquarters at Oilfields. Their camp there is said to be the most modern, sanitary and best arranged oil camp in the United States and perhaps in the world. The streets are well-plotted and the buildings up to date, lighted by electricity and heated by gas. There is a well-stocked general merchandise store; a large dining hall with auxiliary dining rooms; a large and fully equipped club house, and a modern hospital. For this plant, not only are the managers of the company to be thanked for their public spirit, but the company's workers as well have had their honorable part.

The oil property and camp were started about 1900 by Balfour Guthrie and Company, although William Mills Graham before this had started on Section 27, selling out afterward to that firm. Then he was made superintendent for them and began the development here. Finally, the California Oilfields, Ltd., was incorporated, and this gradually purchased the small companies around there until it became the largest company operating on what is known as the East Side Field.

About August, 1913, the Shell Company purchased the California Oilfields, and took over all of their holdings; and they have continued there developments on a large scale, at the same time maintaining the excellence of their buildings; and the result is a prosperous and happy town of more than 600 population. The company even have their own dairy, poultry and hog ranch, and also conduct a large commissary department, with a bakery and a boarding house. There is an abundance of natural gas on the different leases, and this is used in the production of steam, gas and electric power, as well as for heating and lighting purposes. A small refinery is operated, and a compressor-gasoline plant.

The company has its own ice factory and refrigerating plant, an excellent water system, and they keep up a modern sewer system, with septic tanks and garbage destroyers. There is also a garage sufficient to house some thirty-seven cars as well as trucks, and stables adequate for the accommodation of eighty or more horses and mules; a large, modern machine shop, with boiler and tank shops, and spacious storehouses and offices designed according to the best architectural and decorative standards; and besides the community buildings for men, there is a large club house with billiard parlors, reading room, ice-cream parlor, library, etc. The large swimming pool affords both recreation and the facilities for preserving health and increasing happiness. In summer time an air dome provides for moving pictures, and in winter such entertainment is given in the lecture hall. There are also grounds for both base- and football.

The school district is named Oil King, and there is a commodious modern schoolhouse with five teachers.

E. S. Durward is the present superintendent, and he is intensely interested in keeping the camp up to the highest standard and introducing improvements whenever they can be made. He never fails to inquire into any proposals for improvements, recommends the best, and puts the matter before the proper authorities. The result is that the employees stick by the company, many having been there for eight or ten years.

In order that the company, employees and staff may keep in touch with each other, a Welfare Committee whose members are elected from amongst the employees by popular vote meets once a month with the superintendent. In these meetings matters affecting to the comfort and efficiency of the employees, improvements, safeguards against accident and any other matters beneficial to the employees and the company are discussed and settled.

Mr. E. S. Durward was born in Scotland, and in that country he studied and became a mechanical engineer. Later he took up the study of mining engineering, and in the oil fields in Egypt followed his profession for three years. Returning to England, he remained there for a short time; but the attractions of California drew him hither, and in 1913 he reached the Pacific Coast. Shortly after his arrival he entered the service of the California Oilfields, Ltd., as assistant superintendent; and in August, 1913, when these holdings were taken over by the Shell Company, he remained with the new proprietors in the same position. Under the superintendence of Mr. W. C. McDuffie, in the spring of 1918, he was made Field Superintendent for the company, succeeding Mr. McDuffie who had become general superintendent.

JEROME A. McLAUGHLIN.—A thoroughly reliable oil-man, whose integrity is unquestioned and who has an enviable reputation as one of the best production men in California, is Jerome A. McLaughlin, production foreman for the Shell Company of California, at Oilfields. He was born in Butler County, Pa., in 1867, the son of Daniel G. McLaughlin, a native of that state, who became a successful farmer and oil-operator, his lands being still in the possession of his family, a valuable heritage, as they are underlaid with coal and oil. The oldest son, C. R. McLaughlin, is looking after the interests of this estate. Daniel McLaughlin died in Pennsylvania. His wife was Eleanor (Boyle) McLaughlin, and she now resides in Glendale, having the companionship of a daughter. They live in a home that J. A. McLaughlin built for his mother; and there she is spending her later years in peace and contentment. Four boys and two girls were born to this worthy couple, and among them J. A. was the second oldest.

Jerome A. received a good education in the local public schools while he assisted his father on the farm and in his oil operations, and he remained at home until he went to the oil-fields in Wood County, Ohio. There he became production foreman for the Standard Oil Company, and later had the same position with the Palmer Oil Company. In 1904 he came out to Bartlesville, Okla., to become production foreman for the Security Oil Company, and while there he made the acquaintance of A. C. Graham of Oilfields, Cal., who later recommended him as foreman for the California Oilfields, Limited, and he was tendered the position in 1908. He accepted and came here immediately to take charge; and he has remained in that office ever since, continuing with the Shell Company of California when it succeeded to the property in August, 1913. He has given them the benefit of years of valuable experience, and is considered one of the best-posted production men in California.

In many ways Mr. McLaughlin has identified himself with the permanent growth of the community, in which we hope he will remain. Among other activities, he is a stockholder and director in the Oilfields Cooperative Store.



J. A. M. Laughlin

GEORGE F. CORLEY.—Well known as the proprietor of the Coalinga Dairy, the oldest and best dairy in the city, was the late George F. Corley, a native of Tennessee, born near Gordonsville, February 4, 1876, a son of Henry and Tennessee (Ray) Corley, both natives of Tennessee. The ancestors of the Corley family were from the Emerald Isle, Great-grandfather Corley emigrating from Ireland and settling in Tennessee. Grandfather Nathaniel Corley saw service in the Civil War.

After completing his education in the public school of his native state, George F. assisted his father on the farm until 1903, when he came out to Madera County, Cal. Here he was employed by the Raymond Granite Company as their foreman, remaining with them four years. In 1907, Mr. Corley moved to Fresno County, locating at Coalinga, where he secured employment in the oil-fields as a rig-builder, being engaged by different companies. Desiring to engage in business for himself, Mr. Corley bought, in 1914, the Coalinga Dairy from R. Thut, the purchase including his business, residence and dairy buildings. Since that date he personally conducted the business by the most modern and sanitary methods, and his care in safeguarding his milk was fully appreciated, as shown by the large patronage accorded the Coalinga Dairy, which had the reputation of selling the best quality of milk in the city. In addition to the dairy business, Mr. Corley also engaged in raising cattle and hogs.

On January 20, 1898, George F. Corley was united in marriage with Miss Mary Inez Roberts, a native of Gordonsville, Tenn., and they became the parents of four children: Bessie, now Mrs. Reed of Coalinga; William, with the Coalinga Ice Company; Lamon; and Louise. Mrs. Corley is the daughter of Oliver and Lucy (Whitley) Roberts, born in Virginia and Tennessee, respectively, and who were farmers. Mr. Roberts served in the Confederate Army in the Civil War. Both parents died in Tennessee, the father in 1914, and the mother on July 30, 1912.

Faternally, Mr. Corley was a member of the Odd Fellows and the Eagles at Coalinga. He was well-informed and possessed a genial disposition, with the happy faculty of making and retaining friends and was always ready to aid in advancing the best interests of Coalinga. Mr. Corley passed away on January 13, 1919, after an illness of nine days. Mrs. Corley has bravely taken the management of their affairs and, with the aid of the youngest son, Lamon, continues the dairy business.

BERT A. STATHAM.—A representative of one of Fresno County's earliest pioneer families who has made himself in private and commercial life thoroughly dependable, turned aside to effect a good army record, and come to stand high in Masonic circles so that with his wife he is enviably popular, is Bert A. Statham, a native son who was born in Fresno on October 22, 1888, the only son of James and Margaret (Lawson) Statham. The father was born in Centerville, Fresno County, on September 22, 1859, and engaged in the butcher business at Fresno. Then, for several years, he served as deputy tax collector, and in 1909 he died near Selma. His father was A. H. Statham, a Fresno County pioneer and one of the early developers of the city of Fresno. Mrs. Statham's father was George Lawson, for quarter of a century the proprietor of the Grand Central barber shop.

Bert was brought up in the home of his grandparents, the Lawsons, and when they moved East to Greenville, Ill., he accompanied them, and attended the common schools of the districts in which he lived. He also attended Greenville College, where he pursued a business course, and then he took a position as stock clerk with the Peters Shoe Company of St. Louis.

His grandmother, Betsy Jane Ingles, having died in Greenville, Bert Statham returned to Fresno County with his grandfather, reaching here in 1911; and in July he located at Selma. He accepted a position as bookkeeper for the Selma Planing Mill, but resigned in February, 1915, to enter the

service of the Selma Land Company. Now he devotes his whole time and attention to the management of their insurance department.

Not only did Mr. Statham render active field service in the war, but he returned just in time to do the required herculean work in connection with the Victory Loan drive. When the call for volunteers came, he enlisted in the quartermaster's corps, on August 13, 1917, and was assigned for duty in the paymaster's office at the San Francisco Presidio. He remained steadily at his post, and rose to become first-class sergeant. On March 13, 1919, he was honorably discharged at San Francisco. Under his direction as secretary of the Drive, Selma went promptly "over the top" by 115 per cent.

In 1915 Mr. Statham was married at Fresno to Miss Ethel E. Phillips of Selma, the daughter of George B. and Jennie (Dodson) Phillips; and they reside at 2121 North Street in their own house. Mr. Statham is a thirty-second degree Mason, a member of Selma Lodge No. 277, F. & A. M., and the San Francisco Consistory Bodies, No. 1. He also belongs to Islam Temple, of the San Francisco Shriners. He is a member of Selma Parlor of the Native Sons, and he belongs to the Eastern Star and the Improved Order of Red Men, Independent Order of Foresters, and Woodmen of the World.

CLARENCE L. STAMMERS, M. D.—A medical man of exceptionally superior training, whose skill and conscientious attention and care to every patient have enabled him to rise rapidly in his profession is Dr. Clarence L. Stammers, doubly interesting to residents of Central California as the son of an esteemed pioneer. His father, a jeweler, was one of the highly-respected business men of Selma, and his mother, who has survived and still resides here, owns the well-known Stammers Block. The Doctor occupies rooms in the Sugar Block, while he lives at the Selma Sanitarium, at 1701 First Street, which is in charge of his wife.

Dr. Stammers was born at Cheyenne, Wyo., on September 29, 1887, the son of the late William Robert Stammers, a native of England who came to Selma and was the pioneer in the jewelry trade. After coming to the United States, he married, as his second wife, Miss Mary Elizabeth Footherape, also a native of England, who still resides in Selma, enjoying the honors due her as a pioneer. Mr. Stammers passed away in January, 1916, at the age of sixty-nine years.

Clarence L. was five years old when he came with his parents to Selma, and here he attended the public schools. In these preliminary studies he laid a broad and liberal foundation; and he was fortunate in deciding early to become a medical man. He first studied ophthalmology, and practiced the same, and later he studied medicine and surgery.

He went to Chicago and entered the Northern Illinois College of Ophthalmology and Otology, and there in 1907 he graduated. Then he took a post-graduate course at the Los Angeles Optical College, from which he graduated in July, 1908. Next he practiced ophthalmology in Selma for about a year. Dr. Stammers then entered the California Eclectic Medical College at Los Angeles where he took the four years' course, graduating in 1914. He had spent three years in the Selma High School and during his college course he returned to Selma and took his senior year, graduating in the class of '13. This union of high school and medical studies, typical of a western American youth, somewhat impaired his health, but he continued for a year to practice ophthalmology at Selma and then he went to San Francisco again to get in close touch with the outer and busier world.

Settling for a while there, he became an interne in the French hospital, and after twenty-six months, he received, on November 30, 1917, a diploma from that institution. It was while he was thus serving and developing as interne that he met the young lady who later became his wife. She was then a student at the Nurses' Training School of the hospital, and she is now proprietress of the Selma Sanitarium, and is widely recognized as well qualified



J. M. Shipp

for that important position. In December, 1917, he went to work as an interne in St. Joseph's hospital in San Francisco, and there worked for eight months. At the conclusion, on August 15, 1918, he was regularly licensed as a practicing physician and surgeon, under the requirements of California laws.

The same date, Dr. Stammers was enlisted in the United States War Service, and was sent to Angel Island, in San Francisco Bay, and fifteen days later he was ordered to Camp Greenleaf, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., where he served in the medical department. He took his examination for first lieutenant in the medical service, and passed all his examinations successfully, the papers were forwarded to Washington; but before his commission could be issued, the armistice was signed. He was therefore honorably discharged as a first-class private at Camp Greenleaf, Ga., on December 23, 1918, and on April 1 he opened his present offices at Selma. On May 1, Mrs. Stammers took over the Selma Sanitarium and this much-needed institution is directed in accordance with such modern ethics and on such a broad basis that every other doctor is entitled to take patients there, and is guaranteed the same impartial and excellent treatment. Dr. Stammers is also one of the three resident examining physicians for Selma Camp No. 268, Woodmen of the World. He is besides, court physician to Court Selma, No. 4215, of the Independent Order of Foresters.

April 24, 1917, Dr. Stammers was married to Miss Juliette Loraine Stegeman of San Francisco, and since then Dr. Stammers and his wife have advanced professionally together.

JOHN M. SHIPP.—In the career and accomplishment of John M. Shipp, the well-known rancher, is shown the true spirit of the successful citizen and upbuilder. His father was William Walter Shipp, a native of Holmes County, Miss., who responded to the call for the defense of his hearth and the section which he had come to look upon as his fatherland, entered the Civil War, and served through its sequence of almost unendurable agonies, for four years. For a long time, he had a cotton plantation, and was rated among the successful cotton producers of the South; then he took a fancy to come to California, and that was an end to everything in the past; like everybody else who caught the California fever, he came. John's mother was Mary Strother before her marriage, and she, too, was a native of Holmes County. Mr. and Mrs. Shipp were married in their native State.

In 1868 Mr. Shipp came to California with his family and located on Big Dry Creek in what was known as the Mississippi district. He took up Government land, and went into the business of sheep raising, buying his stock in Solano County, and driving them into Fresno County. In time, he operated on a large scale, and came to have 2,300 acres on the home place. He also followed grain-farming. In 1887 he sold his ranch, but he continued to have an interest in the sheep business until his death, which occurred in 1890, the same year in which his wife passed away. The father of ten children, he had taken a lively interest in the question of popular education for his district, and built the Mississippi School, with other of his neighbors, which has since then been discontinued.

The fifth child in the family, John M. was born in Holmes County, Miss., on November 29, 1867, coming with his parents to California in the first year of his existence. Fresno County is the scene of his first recollections. He had the usual grammar school educational advantages, and having decided to continue his studies until he had a collegiate training, he entered the Pacific Methodist College at Santa Rosa and graduated when he was nineteen years of age. He lost no time in getting into business; with his father and his brother George R., and they continued sheep growing on his father's ranch, meeting with good success, so that about four years later the brothers as partners, purchased their father's interest, leased his large ranch and con-

tinued the business with mutual satisfaction and profit. They developed the enterprise until they had 7,500 sheep.

In 1890 John M. Shipp purchased his brother's interest in their stock business and has continued his operations alone, gradually drifting into cattle growing. In 1901 he purchased his present ranch of 3,000 acres, eight and a half miles north of Clovis, which he improved with a comfortable residence and the necessary farm buildings and which is the headquarters for his large stock business. In 1907 he sold the balance of his sheep to devote all of his time and efforts to cattle-raising. Besides his home ranch he also owns a ranch at Blaney Meadows, on the South Fork of the San Joaquin River, in the Sierra Nevadas, and being located in the Government National Forest Reserve makes most excellent range for his cattle during the summers, and enabling him to carry over 500 head of Red Durham cattle. For years he has had thoroughbred animals at the head of his herd and it is the consensus of opinion that there is no finer herd of cattle in Fresno County than that of John M. Shipp's. Intensely interested in having a well-bred herd he always secures the finest of thoroughbred males from the choicest herds of Eastern breeders of Red Durhams. With others he has brought cattle from Mexico by trainload to feed on the ranges of Fresno County. His brand—J. S. with a bar underneath—is well-known and marks most excellent cattle. Mr. Shipp was an original member of the Fresno County Cattle-Raisers Association and also of the California State Cattle Growers Association. Interested in the success of these organizations he attends the meetings of both the County and State conventions. In 1918 he moved his residence to Fresno where he built a beautiful home on Cambridge Avenue, which was planned by Mrs. Shipp, who is a woman of culture and refinement and here he resides with his family.

At Academy, Cal., on June 28, 1894, Mr. Shipp and Miss Mary Maud Sample were married and began their years of domestic felicity; their union being blessed with two children, Margaret and Sally Keyes. Mrs. Shipp is a native of Fresno County, a daughter of D. C. Sample, a pioneer of the county. She completed her education at Pacific Methodist College in Santa Rosa where she was graduated. Having sought to be a good neighbor as well as a loyal, helpful citizen, Mr. Shipp, with his family, today enjoys the high esteem and hearty good will of his fellow-Californians for miles around.

THOMAS HEADLEY BROWN.—A thorough machinist and millwright, now foreman of the machine shop for the Standard Oil Company Producing Department in Coalinga, is Thomas Headley Brown, born in Leicester, England, in 1885, the son of George and Sarah (White) Brown, his father being a well-known contractor and builder of Leicester. After graduating from the Wyggeston Boys' School in 1906, he signed articles of apprenticeship with F. J. Hill & Co., general engineers and millwrights in Leicester. After he completed his apprenticeship he went with the Hunslet Locomotive Works in Leeds, England, continuing with them as a machinist; next he was with the Coventry Ordnance Works as a millwright for four years. Having become interested in the Pacific Coast region he resigned his position and came to Coalinga, Cal., in 1911, entering the employ of the Standard Oil Company, section 28, as a machinist, and two years later was promoted to foreman of their machine shop, Coalinga division, a place his years of careful apprenticeship and experience qualifies him to fill. The marriage of Thos. H. Brown occurred in Leeds, England, when he was united with Miss Kittie Allen who was also a native of Leicester, England, and their union has been blessed with three children. Freda was born in England, while Audrey and Adrian were born in Coalinga. In religion Mr. and Mrs. Brown are Baptists while in political preferment he is a protectionist and Republican.

CHARLES R. PUCKHABER.—A native son of the Golden West keenly alive to the wonderful possibilities of our great commonwealth, Charles R. Puckhaber may well be mentioned among those eminent Californians whose progress in an upward career has been due to the combination of rare foresight, perseverance and industry. His father was John Puckhaber, a sturdy pioneer who, braving the inconveniences and dangers of travel in the early fifties, pushed westward to California by way of Panama and soon after established himself in San Francisco in the general merchandise business—a line of activity that he followed until his death. As a business man, indeed, he was very successful and he was widely and highly respected.

Charles Puckhaber was born in San Francisco in December, 1871, and there received his education at the public schools, topping off his studies with a business college course. At sixteen he entered the employ of L. Feldmann & Co., where he worked his way up until he became head bookkeeper.

In the fall of 1897, however, he resigned and moved to Fresno, where he became actively interested in business. His faith in the growing city led him into several fortunate investments, and in time he became identified with the founding of the Union National Bank of Fresno, which was organized in 1906. Guided in part by him as Vice-President and Director the bank has become one of the strongest financial institutions not only of the city of Fresno but the entire San Joaquin Valley. He was also an organizer and Vice-President and a Director of the Fresno Savings Bank, another institution which has done much to help solve the problems of conservation and thrift.

In June, 1895, at San Francisco, Mr. Puckhaber was united in marriage with Emily Worsdale. He is a member of the Commercial and the Sunnyside Country clubs, and belongs to the Masons and the Elks. His political convictions ally him with the Republican party.

SCOTT A. SHANNON.—Fresno County, long famous as the paradise for viticulturists and horticulturists, has been noted for the large number of well-trained, experienced and progressive ranchers who have done much to place California in the front rank of fruit-producing States; and prominent among these aggressive men of affairs must be mentioned Scott A. Shannon, popularly known as "Fred" Shannon, the oldest son of the late Jefferson M. and Rebecca M. (Baley) Shannon, and a grandson of the late Judge Gillum Baley, the well-known pioneer whose interesting life is elsewhere presented in detail in this volume. He was born at Millerton on December 10, 1863, and for a while attended the Millerton grammar school. His father, later townsite agent for the Southern Pacific Railroad, was deputy sheriff under the late Scott Ashman (after whom he was named), before the county seat was moved from Millerton to Fresno. J. M. Shannon became the first station agent at Fresno and stood high with Leland Stanford, Mark Hopkins, and Messrs. Crocker and Huntington, so that it was largely through his efforts that Governor Stanford donated four blocks, or twelve acres, in the heart of Fresno for the Court House and Court House Park. J. M. Shannon owned two blocks on J Street, near Mariposa and Fresno Streets, and from 1874 to 1878 this was his place of residence. He planted it to oranges, and had a fine bearing orange orchard right in the heart of the City of Fresno.

Later, Scott Shannon attended the school at Tollhouse conducted by Prof. R. H. Bramlet, in time a school superintendent of Fresno County, and he also attended one of the first public schools at Fresno, and later took a commercial course in the De Pew and Aydelotte Business College at Oakland. Before going to the business college, however, he was employed by Messrs. Miller & Lux, on their ranches in Fresno and Merced Counties, to take care of and handle all kinds of livestock; after which he kept books for the firm of Furnish & Pratt, wholesale and retail meat dealers at Fresno, for fifteen years, when he thoroughly learned the meat business. And then he engaged with T. W. Pratt in the cattle business at Fresno for several years.

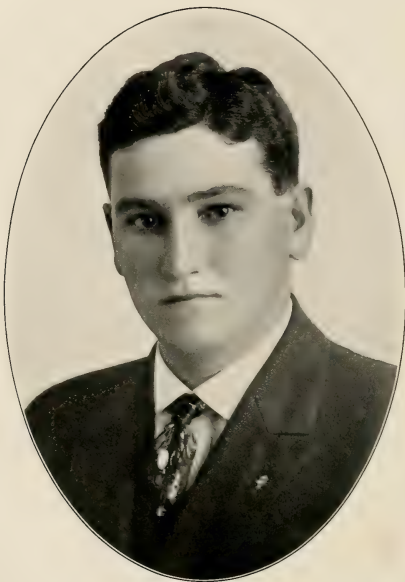
As time went by, Mr. Shannon personally became the owner of various pieces of land, and joint owner with his father in other properties. His father died at Alameda on June 8, 1902, and Scott A. Shannon was named executor, while his mother was named executrix of J. M. Shannon's will, and together they administered the estate until the mother died in 1907, when the estate had not yet been distributed. After his mother's death, therefore, Mr. Shannon proceeded to wind up the estate, which was divided among the four children, all of whom grew to maturity and are still living. Mary Idria is now the wife of W. E. Toms, and resides in Fresno; Scott Ashman, the subject of this review; Sidney J. Shannon, Deputy United States Marshal of the northern half of Southern California district; and Leland Stanford Shannon. Scott Shannon joined the Elks at Fresno in 1902, and he is today one of the oldest members of that lodge.

The three Shannon brothers now jointly own two large ranches; one of 320 acres, known as the Wheatville Ranch, is devoted to the raising of live-stock and is superintended by the subject, and another of 240 acres three and a half miles southeast of Del Rey, which is planted mostly to Malagas and Emperors, so that the Shannon Estate is able to ship its own table grapes, mostly Malagas, under the Shannon Estate Brand, which has become well and favorably known in all the Eastern markets. This famous ranch, grew out of the original eighty acres set out by J. M. Shannon to Malagas, Muscats and Sultanias. In 1914, the three sons bought out their sister's interest, and in 1917 and 1918 they planted largely to table grapes, Malagas and peaches.

Scott A. has been unusually fortunate in his extensive experience in raising, buying and selling all kinds of live stock, and he has also had a valuable experience in slaughtering and conducting both retail and wholesale meat markets. When not over-busy at the Wheatville stock ranch, he lends a hand in operating the vineyard, especially in the busiest seasons. As a result of this direct participation in the vineyard interests, he is a stockholder in the California Raisin Association, the California Peach Association, Inc.

THOS. E. BROWN.—The present chairman of the Board of Trustees of the city of Firebaugh is Thos. E. Brown, a native of Iowa, born in 1867. His father, James Monroe Brown, died when Thomas was a lad of thirteen and he was thrown on his own resources. Being very fond of horses he entered the employ of horse dealers who were engaged in buying horses on the frontier, breaking them and selling them to the settlers in Nebraska and Iowa. He continued with them until 1886, when he came to California, coming through Fresno, then a comparatively small town. Making his way to Sonoma and found employment on a farm for two years. After making a trip to his old home he returned to Sonoma County, following farming at Windsor until he accepted employment with the California Wine Association, and a year later became a foreman, continuing with them in all for five years. He resigned in 1907 and came to Firebaugh beginning as warehouse man for Miller & Lux, soon entering the store and became general store man. During this time he served as deputy sheriff and was also appointed constable of First Judicial Township and afterwards elected to the same office. After eight years with Miller & Lux he resigned his position to give his attention to his office. He was a deputy under Sheriffs Chittenden, McSwain and Thorwaldsen and was constable up till January, 1919. Not wishing the office for a longer period he was not a candidate for reelection.

In 1910 he was appointed a city trustee of Firebaugh, filling the unexpired term and then was elected to the office and in time elected by the trustees as Chairman of the Board. He is also a member of the Board of School Trustees of Firebaugh and active in the building of the new school house. Mr. Brown is a member of Friendship Lodge No. 91, Knights of Pythias, at Healdsburg.



R. Lubers.

BEN DRENTH.—The sterling personal characteristics and executive ability of Ben Drenth have placed him in the front rank of public officials of Fresno County. Born in Holland, May 25, 1879, he was brought to Omaha, Nebr., when three years of age, in 1882. There Mr. Drenth continued his farming operations. In 1900 he brought his family to California, settling in Fresno.

Ben Drenth received a public school education in Texas and California and worked at various occupations until 1903, when he was appointed a member of the police department of Fresno. He served as patrolman three years, and then was promoted to the detective bureau of the department, where he remained until 1910, when he resigned from the force. Having been prevailed upon to run for constable, he made the race in 1910, and was elected by a good majority. So impartial was he in the discharge of the duties imposed upon him, that he was induced to enter the race for reelection, four years later, and was returned to the office. He is to be found "on the job" at all times, and in the performance of his public duties he displays much tact and native ability.

In Fresno, on August 15, 1907, Ben Drenth and Mable Anderson, a native daughter, were united in marriage. They have two children: Anabel and Eleanor. Mr. Drenth is popular in fraternal circles, is a member and Past Grand of Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F., and at the present time is serving as a trustee of the lodge. He belongs to the Fraternal Order of Eagles, and to the Woodmen of the World. He supports the policies of the Democratic party, and believes in progression at all times.

PETER L. ARBIOS.—A native son of California who is making a success of the stock business is Peter L. Arbios, who was born at Pleasanton, Cal., December 3, 1893. His father, Peter Arbios, was born at Eysus, Basses-Pyrenees, France, and migrated to California when eighteen years of age, but soon returned and entered the French army, serving the required time until honorably discharged. His longing for the Pacific Coast continued, however; so he came back to California, locating in Alameda County. He married Marie Daunet, born in Lurbei, Basses-Pyrenees, who came to Los Angeles, Cal. Peter Arbios was one of the early settlers at Mendota, being first in the employ of A. J. Arnaudon, and then with Miller & Lux as general superintendent of the sheep department for fourteen years, traveling from one to another of their many ranches. During this time he was interested in sheep-growing on his own account, having herders who ran his sheep on the plains, with headquarters at Mendota. After resigning his position with Miller & Lux, he continued in sheep-raising and resided with his family at Mendota, where he built a large, commodious residence. He ran about 5,000 head of sheep, purchased land for range, and also improved one ranch. He was actively engaged in business until his death in 1915, aged fifty-two years. His widow now resides in Stockton. Their family consisted of nine children. Amy was killed in an automobile accident in 1913. Albert is serving in the United States Army in France. Peter L. is the subject of this review. Sodie is also serving in the United States Army in France. Edna, Lucy, Josephine, Zeta, and Joseph reside with their mother in Stockton.

Peter L. Arbios was reared at Mendota and received his education in the public schools and at Santa Clara College. When a boy he had learned the care of sheep. So he accepted a place with Miller & Lux as shipper in their sheep department. When nineteen he was advanced to buyer in the department and at that early age he traveled all over California buying sheep for the firm, being intrusted with great responsibility. He proved equal to his trust, and continued with them until his father's death, when he resigned to look after the vast interests left the family. Soon he and his two brothers, Albert and Sodie, both now serving their country in France, formed a partnership, and since then have continued sheep-growing and farming as Arbios Brothers.

They have three bands that approximate 5,000 head, which they range in Fresno, Madera and Mariposa Counties. The family still own the ranches left by the father, and Mr. Arbios makes his home in the old Arbios residence in Mendota.

Mr. Arbios was married in San Francisco, March 11, 1916, to Miss Augustine Marcelle Vallon, a native of St. Laurent de Cros, St. Bonnet, France, and the daughter of Alfred Vallon, a farmer there. In April, 1914, she came to Stockton, Cal., where she met Mr. Arbios, the acquaintance resulting in their marriage. They have one child, Jane. In politics Mr. Arbios is a Republican and a protectionist.

CHARLES PRATHER WELLS.—A native son of California, Charles Prather Wells was born at Lemoore, February 2, 1883, the son of James M. and Susan (Block) Wells, born in Missouri and Wisconsin, respectively, who were married in Missouri and followed farming there. In about 1876 James M. Wells came to California being joined two years later by his wife and two children. For a time he was employed in Tulare County at the stock business and also in the warehouse at Lemoore. He purchased railroad land on Polvadero Creek on the West Side in Fresno County, built a residence and made other improvements. He turned the first furrow in the virgin soil and engaged in grain raising; for a few years after he continued in the warehouse at Lemoore, between seasons, to earn the money to make the early payments on his land until he could get started. As he prospered he purchased other lands until he now has over 3,000 acres of valley and range land, being actively engaged in farming until he retired and now with his wife makes his home at Long Beach. They were the parents of ten children, nine of whom are living, Charles P. being the fourth in order of birth. He was reared on the farm on Polvadero Creek, his education being obtained in the local public schools and at the Tulare High. After his school days were over he continued farming with his father until after reaching his majority when he leased a part of his father's land and engaged in grain raising on his own account in which he has been successful. He is also engaged in raising cattle, ranging them at the head of Jacolitos Creek, where he has homesteaded land which he is improving and where he makes his home. However, he still raises grain in the Valley, usually sowing about 400 acres each season.

Charles P. Wells was married at Fresno, November 19, 1910 to Louise Carstens a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, who came with her parents, John and Louise Carstens to California in 1903. The parents followed horticulture on a ranch near Fresno until they retired. Mrs. Wells, the fourth oldest of their six children received her education in the public schools of Cincinnati, Ohio. In national politics, Mr. Wells is a Democrat.

HARRY HENRY GREVE.—A native son of California, Harry Henry Greve was born in Priest Valley, Monterey County, July 26, 1888, the son of Paul and Sophia (Abell) Greve, pioneers of Priest Valley. Harry H. was the youngest of their family of ten children that grew up and was reared on the home farm, attending the local school. When twenty-one years of age he homesteaded in Sunk Valley, Fresno County, where he now owns 320 acres, being engaged in raising cattle. He also owns 160 acres on Salt Creek, where he is building his residence for his permanent home, from which headquarters he looks after his cattle.

Mr. Greve was married in Fresno March 30, 1917, to Stella Penland, who was born in Webster County, Mo. Coming to Fresno in 1903 she completed her education in the public schools of the county seat.

Mr. and Mrs. Greve have one child, Dorothy. While now a resident and stockman of Fresno County, he lives only a few miles from his old home in Priest Valley. He is a protectionist and espouses the principles of the Republican Party.

LE ROY AKERS.—A native son who is a successful cattleman on the West Side in Fresno County is Le Roy Akers, born near Centerville, Fresno County, April 3, 1864. His father, Anderson Akers, was born in Kentucky and migrated to Texas with his parents when a child where he was reared to the life of a farmer and stockman. In 1852 he crossed the plains to California, arriving at Millerton, Fresno County. He was engaged in farming and stockraising near Centerville, until about the year 1870 he located on the West Side, purchasing a ranch in San Benito County, two miles west of the Fresno County line. Here he raised cattle until 1882 and then moved to Los Gatos Creek, where he resided until his death in October, 1916, aged eighty-four years. His wife, Amanda Akers died January 1, 1879. Of their eight children, three boys of whom are living, Le Roy is the second oldest of all. He was reared to the stock business and enjoyed the privilege of a public school education. From a youth he rode the range. After he was of age he homesteaded his present place on Los Gatos Creek to which he has added by purchase until he has 400 acres, besides leasing a large area of 2,000 acres on which he ranges his cattle, usually having about 400 head.

In Hollister, April 9, 1889, Mr. Akers married Nellie Hart who was born in Santa Clara County, the daughter of Patrick and Margaret (Burns) Hart, natives of Ireland, who located in Wisconsin and in 1861 came via Panama, locating at Santa Clara where Mr. Hart was a flour miller until he located at Hollister; after a few years removed to Priest Valley, Monterey County, where he was among the pioneers of the Valley; there he and his wife passed away. Mrs. Akers was the second oldest of their five children, and was reared and educated in Priest Valley. Mr. and Mrs. Akers have five children: Maggie, Mrs. Herman James of Belridge; Lottie, Irene, Herman and Charles. For many years Mr. Akers has been clerk of the Louis school district. In national politics he is a Democrat, but in local matters he prefers to vote for the man rather than party.

MR. and MRS. JOHN A. YOUNGQUIST.—The enterprising and popular merchants at Auberry, Fresno County, are Mr. and Mrs. John A. Youngquist, who have a splendid location and a large trade. John Youngquist was born in Evanston, Ill., August 31, 1886, the son of S. W. and Hannah Youngquist. His father was a shoe merchant in Chicago, being in business there at the time of the Chicago fire in 1871. He established his residence in Evanston where he also established a grocery business in which he became successful. After many years of strenuous life he and his wife now live retired in the enjoyment of peace and comfort—the fruits of their early labors.

John A. received his education in the public and high schools of Evanston as well as the Northwestern University, after which he entered the employ of the C. B. & Q. R. R. in the purchasing and store department, afterwards holding a similar position with the C. & R. I. R. R., and still later with the Santa Fe. He gained much valuable knowledge and experience and became a very efficient and valued employee.

Coming to Los Angeles in 1907, Mr. Youngquist entered the employ of the Pacific Electric, organized their store department and continued with them as storekeeper for two years. Next he went with the Santa Fe and handled the supply train between San Francisco and El Paso. Afterwards he went into the new offices of the Southern Pacific where he had charge of a branch of revaluation work, compiling it for the Southern Pacific Railroad Company at the request of the United States Government. After this he engaged with the San Joaquin and Eastern Railroad. Coming to Auberry in the spring of 1917, he organized the store department for them and, completing the work of organization, he resigned his position to engage in the merchandise business on his own account.

On June 17, 1918, he married Mrs. Lillian (McFaul) Witham, who was born in Brighton, Ontario, and came to California with her parents, Daniel

and Carrie McFaul who located in Madera County, where Mr. McFaul was in the employ of the Flume and Trading Company until he retired. Her parents are now both deceased. Lillian McFaul received a good education in the schools of Madera. In Fresno, March, 1901, she married Frank Witham, a prominent merchant of Fresno. He was a native of Lowell, Mass., of an old Eastern family, and a well-educated and cultured man. He came out to California when eighteen years of age and was engaged in the grocery business in Fresno for thirty-two years. In 1904 Mr. and Mrs. Witham located in Auberry and engaged in the general merchandise business. Mr. Witham was appointed postmaster at Auberry and filled the position acceptably. He passed to the great beyond on December 17, 1917, aged fifty-one years. Mrs. Youngquist has a very fine and valuable collection of Indian baskets, beads and curios, which she prizes very highly. The Youngquists have a very complete stock of merchandise for a country store and have a large patronage. Their little ranch at Auberry is a trim, well-kept place, with a comfortable bungalow residence.

In 1918 Mr. Youngquist became a member of the Spruce Production Division of the United States Army, serving at Yaquima Bay as acting supply and property sergeant until he was honorably discharged January 29, 1919, after six months' service. During his absence in the service of his country Mrs. Youngquist ran the store. Mr. and Mrs. Youngquist are well-liked and popular, both are protectionists and are Republicans in politics.

MRS. LUCINDA HOUSER.—A woman highly esteemed for her noble qualities who is one of the oldest settlers of Watts Valley, Fresno County, is Mrs. Lucinda Houser whose maiden name was Lucinda Hole, born in Darke County, Ohio, April 18, 1843. Her father, Wm. Hole was also a native of Darke County of an old Virginian family; he married Elizabeth Blotner who was born in Pennsylvania. They engaged in farming in Darke County, Ohio, afterwards removing to Mercer County, Ohio, again following husbandry until 1874, when they came to the Pacific Coast in 1877, and were pioneers of Watts Valley where they improved a homestead on which they resided until their death, the mother passing away at the age of 68, while the father died in 1902 aged eighty-six years. Of their thirteen children, eight grew up and came to Fresno County but only four girls are now living of whom, Lucinda is the oldest. Reared on the farm in the Buckeye State she received a good education in the public schools. She was married in Mercer County, June 16, 1864, to John N. Houser who was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, in 1838. He served in Company F, Fifty-sixth Ohio Infantry, in the Civil War and after a year's service was honorably discharged. In the fall of 1864 the young couple removed to Iowa and farmed in Fremont County until 1875, when they concluded to come to the Coast. After a short stay at Chico, Cal., they removed to Oregon but in 1877 returned to California and were among the first settlers of Watts Valley. Here they located a squatter's claim, built a small log house and began improvements and four or five years afterwards when the land was surveyed they filed their homestead and soon obtained title to the land and afterwards bought land adjoining and now have 520 acres lying just next to the National Forest Reserve so with the permit they have a valuable range the year around. Mr. Houser died January 23, 1900. He was a member of the Odd Fellows. Since his death his widow resides on the old home. The ranch and cattle being now cared for by her two sons Louis J., and James A., who have grown up on the ranch. Mr. and Mrs. Houser had eight children: Heppy Ann, Mrs. Trively of Fresno; Edna Arminda, Mrs. Williams of Garfield district, Fresno County; Josiah died at twenty-six years; Louis Jackson, on the home ranch; Clara May, Mrs. Waggoner of Los Banos; James A., married Sarah C. Bransch also residing on the home ranch; Emarintha, the wife of Arthur Highman, died in Salinas; Anderson died at twenty-two. The three last named were born in California. Mrs. Houser is a devout Christian and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



S. D. Williams

SAMUEL B. WILLIAMS.—A prominent man in both religious and political councils, as much of a giant intellectually and morally as he is physically—for he stands six feet two inches high, and weighs 215 pounds, a superb specimen of real manhood—is Samuel B. Williams, once widely known as deputy sheriff, and now very successful as a rancher, road supervisor and director-at-large of the Fresno County Farm Bureau. He was born in Bedford County, Tenn., seven miles northwest of Shelbyville, and his earliest recollections revert to Fall Creek, where as a boy he enjoyed with his father his favorite pastime of fishing. In Bedford County he first saw the light on August 25, 1872, and growing up in the Volunteer State, he migrated to California alone, bidding adieu, in his twentieth year, to father and home, on July 28, 1892.

He was practically only a boy when he left the parental roof, with his through railway fare, a present from his father, and five dollars sewed into a coonskin bag secured around his body. The blessings of his mother, and two quilts worked by her, also accompanied him. Thus equipped, he stepped upon the stage of life's actual work at Tipton, Cal., where he arrived on August 3, 1892. He worked for forty-two days there, and then he left for Fresno City.

At Fresno he entered the employ of old Dr. W. J. Prather, and ran the yard and stables of the vineyard for six months. The job was hard, long and exacting, and the pay was exceptionally small, and what he received was given him on worse than the installment plan. He took it out, in fact, in dentistry and an old shot-gun; for he received no money for all that he had done. It is needless to say that it was only a matter of time and he left the old doctor's employ.

On March 2, 1893, he came over to the West Side and entered the employ of William Wilkinson, with whom he remained for six months; and there he learned to drive the harvester. Finishing Wilkinson's harvest, on September 3, he went to Olney Whiteside's ranch and worked for him until after the harvest in 1895. He then began to work for Samuel B. Williams, and he never expects to be employed again for anybody else. He "bached" for four years, prepared and ate his own cooking, and still survived. On November 9, 1899, however, he was married to Miss Lena E. Whiteside, and since then he has had a very good boarding-house and a comfortable stopping-place.

He made his first purchase, a tract of eighty acres, in 1895, and rented besides. He started with a six-horse team—six young horses which he had purchased for ninety dollars—paying also \$110 for collars and harness to go with them. That was in the blessed days of the Grover Cleveland administration, but he stayed with the job and won out. He rented 600 acres besides his own eighty. Then he sold the eighty and bought 130 on the West Side, and afterwards sold that. Still later he purchased, in 1905, the 240 acres where his house now stands. This was then all raw land—not a stroke of improvement on the acreage.

He built his house, a fine large two-story frame, hard-plastered structure, well furnished with modern conveniences, putting it up in 1906 at a cost of \$4,000. He built two barns and an Indiana silo, forty feet high, with a capacity of 105 tons. In 1917, also, he put down an artesian well, sinking it to the second water-level at 1,040 feet, so that he has a flow of 125 gallons per minute. He has a fifteen-horsepower R. & V. distillate engine which pumps the water into tanks, and thence it passes by means of the gravity system, into the house, barns and troughs, and for irrigation. Besides his home ranch, he operates about 700 acres which he rents.

His largest crop for any year was 9,000 sacks of wheat, or eighteen sacks to an acre, harvested in 1901, but the financial returns were not as great, as in other years, since he was able to sell it for only eighty-five cents a

hundred-weight. Perhaps 1917 was his most prosperous year, for he then made \$30,000.

His parents both died in Tennessee; his father died where he was born, on the old Williams place, in 1900, aged seventy-two years, and the mother in 1903, in her sixty-eighth year. They had fifteen children, of whom fourteen grew up, among whom there are two ministers in the Missionary Baptist Church. Grandfather Williams was born in North Carolina, and Grandfather Tune, the progenitor of Mrs. Williams, was born in Halifax County, Va. His mother was Sarah Ann Tune before her marriage, and she was a native of Tennessee. Both these families reach back in an interesting way in American history. The Williamses are of an old Colonial-American family, and figured in the Revolutionary War and in the formative period of the nation; while Grandfather Tune was a soldier in the Mexican War. Samuel B. Williams is the twelfth child, and the baby of the family is Jarmon W. Williams, a vineyardist near Clovis. He and Samuel are the only ones in Fresno County.

Samuel attended the public schools of Tennessee, where he received a fair educational drill, the many benefits of which are seen in his subsequent prosperity. He owns and uses two autos, and he owns and runs one combined Holt harvester and thresher, a thirty-two-horsepower machine. He has recently purchased a twenty-five-horsepower Yuba tractor to pull it, and he also hires a tractor at times to plow. He has thirty brood mares, and breeds and raises mules, and he has three Spanish jacks, and he has thirty-five head of colts, mules and work-horses. He boasts a big team of eight draft horses, and hires out horses and mules, and he has received \$8,000 in rentals from the said eight-horse team inside of three years. He is also engaged in breeding registered prize-taking Hampshire hogs.

Mr. Williams has served as road supervisor in the Helm road section of the Fourth Supervisorial District for the past sixteen years, and he is still on the job there also. He has served as deputy state warden. He is also on the school board and the ditch board. He has just been appointed director-at-large of the Fresno County Farm Bureau. A Democrat in national politics, Mr. Williams works without partisanship in any good cause designed to benefit the community. He is the presiding officer of the San Joaquin Valley Baptist Association, and is on the board of directors of the Northern California Baptist Association. He has been a Sunday school superintendent for a quarter of a century. He has also been a generous supporter of Indian missions in California, under the Baptist Church.

In matters political as in religious, Mr. Williams contends strongly for what is right and just, or what he thinks may be so, and when land speculators sought to charge the lands of private individuals in this section with a tax of approximately seventeen dollars per acre for alleged reclamation benefits, Mr. Williams was the leader to take the side of the smaller landowners, organized the defense, and won out, and thereby won the gratitude of his friends and neighbors.

Mr. Williams was brought up a strict Baptist in Tennessee, by Christian parents, and he contributes liberally of his means to the work of that denomination, in which he has become a pillar of strength. He is a man of clean and correct habits, and neither drinks, smokes nor chews, and, with a rare spiritual vision, seems to get on the right side of every moral and political question, and then he has the courage of his convictions. His strong executive force has called him to leadership in church and state, and he gave \$2,000 to the Baptist Indian Missions of California. He is on the board of the Nipinimuwsa Mission in Mariposa County, and he has been furnishing the money to build the mission. The Indians call him Big Chief, and clap him on the back, for all that he does for them. An Indian girl of the Mono tribe, named Miss Mattie Jackson, has been taken into the family of Mr. Williams, and attends the New Hope School, where he is a trustee. At the thirty-eighth

annual session of the San Joaquin Valley Baptist Association, held in the Fowler Baptist Church, from April 30 to May 3, 1918, Mr. Williams delivered a stirring address. Another key-note address was delivered by Mr. Williams at Tulare, on the occasion of the Thirty-ninth Session, April 15, 1919, and his words are truly prophetic of that better day which Christian people have looked forward to ever since the days of Christ—a kingdom of love and righteousness, which is surely dawning.

GEORGE CLYDE MARRIOTT.—One of the more recent comers to the Laguna de Tache is George Clyde Marriott who was born in Van Buren County, Iowa, November 26, 1873. He is at present renting the Harlan Ranch, while waiting to take possession of the fine eighty-acre ranch a quarter of a mile north of Linn station on the Hanford and Summit Lake Railway, which he purchased in January, 1919. He is the youngest son of William S., and Lizzie (Alfrey), Marriott, well-known in Van Buren County, Iowa. The father having reached an age of seventy-six, is living retired at Bentonsport, Iowa, after a lifetime of hard work as a farmer. The parents were married near Bentonsport. Mr. Marriott's mother who was born in Clark County, Mo., is also still living. Five children were born to the parents, namely: William L., who is a farmer, near Bentonsport, Iowa; Thomas J., resides at Yale, Carroll County, Mo., where he is a farmer; Emma who is the wife of F. A. Cross and resides in Colorado; George Clyde, who is the subject of this sketch, and Annie, who is the wife of Col. C. C. Beer, of Kingsburg, Cal.

G. C. Marriott grew up on his father's eighty-acre farm and attended the public schools of Van Buren County, Iowa. At the age of twenty-five he was married to Miss Hannah S. De Hart, who was born and reared in the same county, and was a daughter of Albert De Hart, who owned a fine 200-acre farm and was very prominent in public matters in his own county and township. After marriage George Clyde Marriott farmed his father-in-law's farm for two years; then went to Oklahoma where he filed on a claim, but moved back to Iowa the next year and bought a farm and farmed it for two years when he sold it and moved to Nebraska, but after one year moved back again to Iowa and farmed for several years until he came to California in the year 1907. He settled on the Laguna de Tache September 1, 1907, only after a careful examination of Northern California by driving, camping out, observing and interviewing. He is well satisfied with the Laguna de Tache where he is taking a rank among its most influential and successful ranchers. He sold a fine thirty-acre ranch lying three miles west of Laton, in 1914, after improving it. He has owned other lands and farmed successfully ever since coming to the grant. The old pioneer, Elisha Harlan, died in February, 1919, and Mr. Marriott is ably running the Harlan ranch at the present time. Mr. and Mrs. Marriott have become the parents of four children: Albert Blaine, who is a senior in the Riverdale high school; Ivan O'Keith who is a junior and Loretta May. Juineta, next to the youngest was born and died in California. Though not a blind partisan Mr. Marriott adheres to the principles of the Republican Party; Mr. and Mrs. Marriott and family are members of the Church of the Brethren.

FRANK EDGAR ABBOTT.—A native son of California who has worked himself up by his own exertions from the bottom of the ladder to a position of influence and trust is Frank Edgar Abbott, born at Sanger, Fresno County, Cal., September 21, 1890. He was reared in Los Angeles and received his education in the public schools, which he supplemented later in life by completing a course in the International Correspondence School. When a lad of nine years he began paddling his own canoe and contributed to the support of his family. He first worked at anything he could get to do, then followed ranch work, driving a ten-mule team in Southern California, and also a season in Yuba County, then he worked in the mines near Mojave;

where he also drove a ten-horse team; he also worked at dairying and rode after cattle. In Los Angeles he entered the employ of the Los Angeles Saddle and Finding Company, learned collar-making; he began at \$7.00 a week and when he quit was receiving \$26.00.

In 1909 he concluded to try his luck in the oil fields, so on August 2, 1909, he came to Coalinga and entered the employ of the Standard Oil Company, on Section 28 in the gas engine department and during the nine months he was never off the lease, for after his day's work of ten hours was over he worked learning tool dressing and at the end of that time he was promoted to tool dresser which he continued for eighteen months; then he became a driller and worked in the production department until August 15, 1918, when he was promoted to foreman of the Continental on Section 2 for the Standard Oil Company, in the Coalinga department, since which time he has had charge of and built up the lease, drilling new wells, as well as the production of twenty-one wells. He has always put in long hours and by study, research and close application he has won an assured position for himself.

His maternal grandfather, Jesse Reed Edgar, was born in Tennessee, he married Elizabeth Ragsdale, a native of Kentucky. They migrated from Arkansas to California in 1859, crossing the plains with ox teams, and locating at what is now Sanger, Fresno County, where he owned 500 acres, a part of it is now the city of Sanger. Here he raised stock and followed freighting until his death. Their daughter, Mattie, was a year old when they crossed the plains and she well remembers and converses well of the early days of Centerville and Sanger; she joined her son Frank in Coalinga in 1910, and since then presides over his home. He is very good and kind to his mother and she is equally solicitous for his welfare.

Mr. Abbott, in about 1913, was sent by the Standard to the Fresno Fair, where he installed a miniature oil farm as a part of their exhibit in the sales department, which he had charge of during the fair. The farm as well as the exhibit caused favorable comment and attracted much attention. He was made a Mason in 1913 in Coalinga Lodge No. 387, F. & A. M., and is also a member of Coalinga Chapter No. 114, R. A. M. His interest in educational work is manifested as a trustee at Max Station school district.

N. PETER JENSEN.—An enterprising business man who thoroughly understands the responsible work he has for years undertaken, that of building and repairing public roads, and whose civic pride has inspired him to develop one of the most attractive of home places, is N. Peter Jensen, the kind-hearted and liberal Danish-American so popular with everybody since he first came to Fresno County in the middle eighties. He was born in Fyen, Denmark, in 1877, the son of Soren Jensen, a native of that country who was married there to Carrie Hansen. In 1883 Soren Jensen came out to California on a kind of prospecting tour, and he spent the first year in Fresno Colony; then he passed a year in San Luis Obispo, in the employ of Steele Bros., but later he returned to Fresno County. His wife and family of three children joined him in 1886, and the next year he bought a ranch in West Park. Here began his experiments in viticulture on a ranch of ten acres; and when he had progressed somewhat, he bought twenty acres more, so that eventually he owned thirty fine acres. These he managed until 1908, when he sold out and retired to a quiet life with his children. Six years later, full of years and honors, respected and liked by everyone, he died, having almost reached his seventy-second year. Mrs. Jensen, who passed away in 1910, was the mother of three children: Sena, who became Mrs. H. P. Larsen and resides in the Pomona school district; N. Peter, of this sketch; Marius, a rancher in Barstow,—and all are worthy of the family name.

Brought up in Denmark until he came to America and Fresno County, Peter attended the public schools of West Park, and from a lad helped in the vineyard, assisting his father until he was twenty years old. Arriving at



H. P. Jensen

the threshold of manhood, he began to do for himself; and then, buying a farm outfit, with a harvester and eight mules, he leased land from the Bank of Central California. He put his hand to the plow in vigorous fashion, and soon he was planting some 2,000 acres to grain. This decidedly extensive farm he ran for three years, and although he harvested good crops, wheat was sold at such a low figure that he could realize no profit, and finding that his labor was in vain, he quit and turned to other fields.

He then engaged in contract work, undertaking to level and check lands; and he found plenty to do in Vinland, Empire, Barstow and other colonies, so that he continued in that line for four years. Then he bought a ranch in the Barstow Colony—forty acres of raw land requiring hard work in leveling and checking to make it ready for alfalfa-growing—and a fifteen-acre orchard of peaches. This time he was permitted to see a reward for his industry, and once more was on the road to prosperity.

In the meantime Mr. Jensen had continued contract-leveling and checking, until he was appointed road-overseer under Chris Jorgensen, in January, 1907; and this position he has held to everybody's satisfaction ever since. He used to work fifty-two head of mules on the roads, but lately he has been using two caterpillars in this district—a Holt of forty-five horsepower, and another of seventy-five. He also uses a truck and eight to ten horses. He works from the highway west for five miles beyond Kerman and from the river to McMullen Station. These caterpillars are owned by the county, and their use and upkeep alone involve care and responsibility. When Mr. Jensen took office, the roads were poor in this section; and since then the best have been constructed, usually at the rate of about forty miles each winter. In 1916 he worked about 220 miles of road, and in 1917 a good 250, and more each year, so that now he may point with pride to the excellent highways constructed under his supervision.

Having a chance to sell his forty-acre ranch at a good profit in 1907, Mr. Jensen did so, and the following year he bought his present home place of the same size, one mile south of Barstow. This he has devoted to vineyard purposes, setting out the vines himself; and he has thirty acres of Thompson seedless. He has also purchased another forty acres across the road, and most of this he has planted to alfalfa, reserving twelve acres for a vineyard of Thompson's. A member of the California Associated Raisin Company, Mr. Jensen both profits from the experience of others and contributes somewhat himself to the general advancement of California husbandry.

While at West Park, Mr. Jensen was married to Mary Stahl, a charming lady from Iowa; and for years he has maintained a happy home typical of Californian hospitality.

VICTOR ROBERTS.—Victor Roberts was born near St. Aux Baragues, Hautes-Alpes, France, September 25, 1854. His father, Robert Roberts, was a stone-mason by trade and followed contracting and building. He married Julia Seinturier and they had a family of four children of whom Victor is the oldest. He came to Chicago, Ill., when seventeen, arriving in March, 1873, and was in the employ of Armour and Company. In January, 1874, he removed to Wisconsin, where he was employed at sawmilling and lumbering for two years, his wages being \$12.00 per month. On account of the confusion in his name, people insisting on writing it Robert Victor he added an s to his family name, making it Roberts.

In April, 1876, he came to San Francisco, Cal., and in July of the same year to Hollister where he was employed by a sheep man and drove a band of sheep into the Cholame country in San Luis Obispo County and later into Madera and Fresno Counties. It was in 1877, that he came with a flock to Huron—to ship from the end of the new railroad. He drove a stage in 1879 from Parkfield to Soledad for one year. Having saved some money he concluded to settle down. In 1882 he located his present place—a preemption—of 160 acres and afterwards homesteaded 160 acres, the beginning of his present large hold-

ings in Jacolitos Canyon. He engaged in cattle raising in which he was very successful adding to his possessions until he now owns 4,000 acres on Jacolitos Creek for a distance of about seven miles. This he has fenced and cross-fenced and devoted to raising cattle, hogs and horses. Jacolitos Ranch, as he has named it, is well watered by numerous springs and is a most excellent stock ranch. Mr. Roberts is able to graze over 300 head of cattle on his range; his brand is VR connected and he is a member of the California Cattle Growers Association.

Jacolitos Canyon is an old historical place in Fresno County and has been the scene of many interesting incidents. The Indians from Tulare Lake came here to hunt deer and bear and to gather acorns and red clover; they built small huts, which they thatched with tules. When the Sonorans or Mexicans came they found these little huts and named the creek Jacolitos, meaning "little huts." It was at one time the rendezvous of Vasques, who had a cabin built of mud and sticks close to the creek and here he lived with Old Mariana and from this point they made raids to the Salinas, as well as the San Joaquin valleys for bunches of cattle, and on their return would feast on them. They also had gardens where they raised vegetables and melons. This was during the latter part of Vasques career and the remains of the hut are still here.

August 30, 1885, on the Jacolitos, Mr. Roberts was married at the home of the bride, Miss Addie Frame, born at Copperopolis, Cal., the daughter of James Frame, a pioneer of Jacolitos Creek country. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts have six children. Zilpha, Mrs. Arthur Bennett, who are ranching on the Jacolitos; Hugo, who served in the United States Naval Reserves, is a graduate of San Luis Obispo Polytechnic and is a cattle-grower on the Jacolitos; Ernest is in the United States Navy; Velma and Vera, twins, Velma is Mrs. Charles Eastland of Coalinga, and Vera is a graduate nurse and resides in San Jose; and Robert is attending Coalinga Union High School. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts have a comfortable home and, being liberal entertainers, Jacolitos Ranch is known for its hospitality and good cheer.

HERMAN H. GREVE.—At the mouth of the Salt Creek in Warthan Canyon lies the ranch of Mr. and Mrs. Herman H. Greve nicely located in the foothills of the Coast Range. Mr. Greve was born in Priest Valley, Monterey County, May 6, 1886. His father, Paul Greve, was born in Germany and was raised a farmer's boy; there he married Sophia Abell and soon afterwards the young couple came to California. For a time they farmed near Hollister, and then became pioneers of Priest Valley, where they homesteaded land and engaged in farming and stock-raising, and there Paul Greve died. He is survived by his wife, who still resides on the old homestead. However the home ranch is now owned by four of the sons who tenderly care for the aged mother, seeing she is comfortable and well cared for. Ten children born to this worthy couple grew up and are as follows: Annie, Mrs. St. John, lives near San Francisco; Hannah, Mrs. Thomas Himmih of King City; Lena, Mrs. E. L. Arnold, lives in Coalinga; Emma was Mrs. Brummell and she died in King City; Paul, one of the Greve Brothers, is a rancher near the old home; Joseph also interested in Greve Brothers, is a rancher in the same vicinity, Martin S. of Greve Brothers, is engineer at Station 2, Associated Pipe Line; Herman H. is the subject of this review; Bertha, resides with her mother; while Harry H. is a cattle grower on Salt Creek, Fresno County.

Herman H. grew up on the Priest Valley ranch and from a boy learned to ride the range and to rope and brand cattle, at the same time receiving a good education in the school of his home district. Two years after his father's death, which occurred in 1898, he, with his brothers Paul, Joseph and Martin, as Greve Brothers, engaged in stockraising and farming on the old home place and in time became the owners of the ranch which is still in their name. In 1907 Herman H. located a homestead on Salt Creek in Warthan Canyon, and this he improved and engaged in stock-raising on his own account, using the brand H. N. combined.

In Fresno, October 17, 1907, Mr. Greve was united in marriage with Miss Ella M. Grant, who was born in Martin Township, Allegan County, Mich. Her parents, Jesse T. and Martha (O'Conner) Grant, natives of Pennsylvania, were farmers in Allegan County, where the mother died; her father now resides in Fresno County. The two children born of this marriage, Mrs. Herman H. Greve and Clara G., Mrs. M. S. Greve, both live in Fresno County. Mr. Greve came to Fresno County in 1910 and seeing the value and importance of owning land he located a homestead—their present home on Salt Creek—which is now well improved and where they have a comfortable home of 520 acres, beside Mr. Greve's old homestead adjoining the ranch. Besides this Mr. Greve leases land in Warthan Canyon upon which he raises grain. He has had much experience in road building and for several years has been overseer of roads, his district being from Alcalde to the Monterey County line, a distance of twenty miles. To this position he gives the same close attention that he does to his own business and sees to it that the roads in his district are kept in good shape. The result of the union of Herman Greve and Ella Grant is one child, a son named Dale Herman Greve. In national politics Mr. Greve is a staunch Republican.

JOHN W. RUBLE.—A successful rancher of Fresno County is John W. Ruble, who resides one mile west of Laton, and who, for the past sixteen years, has farmed, with the most up-to-date apparatus, on the Laguna de Tache. He was born at Lewistown, Mifflin County, Pa., on December 8, 1859, the son of John and Annie (Lawver) Ruble, both natives of Pennsylvania and descendants of early settlers there. Although popularly called Pennsylvania Dutch, the forebears of the family really came from England, where they were farmers.

John W. is the tenth child in a family of four girls and seven boys, all of whom were endowed with hardy physiques, and each of whom, save those who died, has attained to some success. Lewis Ruble, a brother, who died two years ago, was steward on the Mifflin County Farm for a quarter of a century; and the oldest brother, Isaac L., was a locomotive engineer on the railways until he was sixty-five, when he was automatically retired on account of the age limit. He is now seventy-five and lives at Lewistown. Two brothers are also in California; George F., a grocer at Berkeley; and Aaron, a rancher near Chico. A brother died in infancy, and another died from the effects of a fall in his barn. Of the four sisters, one died when young, and the second in the order of birth passed away in her thirtieth year, leaving a husband, Will Wagner, and four children, at Halstead, Kans. The other sisters are Mary Jane, the widow of Frank Roth, who resides at Monticello, Ind., and Susie, the wife of M. H. Carter, of Sawyer, Kans.

John W. Ruble grew up on his father's farm at Mifflin, and went to school during the winters. After his father's death in 1883, he bade good-bye to the old home and, with his mother and a sister, settled in Pratt County, Kans., where he took a preemption and proved up. Three years later in that county he was married to Miss Dora E. Flint, a native of Ireland, Ind., and the daughter of John and Nancy (Brittain) Flint. Mrs. Ruble came to Kansas, a single woman of twenty-four, took a preemption claim in Barber County and proved up on it. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Ruble moved to Greeley County, Kans., and while homesteading land lived there for seven years, and there their four children were born: Alice, Wilbur, Anna and Jerry L. In this western part of the state drought devastated their land and they lost all that they had. Then they moved to Ordway, Colo., thence to La Junta, thence to Rocky Ford, and there they did well, buying and cultivating fifteen acres.

In 1903 the family came out to California and settled in Laton, where Mr. Ruble bought sixty-two and a half acres, on which he has made all the improvements; and now he has thirty acres set to peach, pear, prune and

apricot trees, and a fine vineyard of grapes. For a while he ran a dairy, but now he is cultivating prunes. He also has a few cows, of the Holstein breed, and some poultry. By steady work Mr. and Mrs. Ruble have prospered, and as fast as they were able, they have shared that prosperity with their children. Alice is a graduate from the business college at Rocky Ford, Colo.; her husband is Roy H. Hampton, an orchardist and dairyman, and they own sixty acres west of Mr. Ruble's, and have two children. Wilbur was a student in the third year of the Laton High School when he received an appointment at Annapolis; and entering there on July 4, 1910, he was graduated four years later. He married Miss Mildred Larkins, of Brooklyn, N. Y. During the late war he served on Admiral Robison's staff on the flagship Chicago, and when Admiral Robison was sent to Europe, Wilbur was chosen as his aid, and inspected forts, war vessels, etc. He is now taking a two-years' postgraduate course in radio and electrical engineering. Anna married Mr. Ted Haskell of Kingsburg, also a successful rancher and orchardist. She was a graduate of Laton High School and an accomplished pianist. Jerry L. Ruble, is an instructor in the government veterinary training-schools. He was made Captain in August, 1918; he came home on a furlough and was married at Kingsburg on August 3, 1919, to Miss Elda Odessa Trent, of Laton, a graduate of the University of California, and a teacher. The young couple will go to Atlanta, Ga., where Captain Ruble is stationed. All these children, in their honorable and serviceable careers, well maintain the traditions of Mrs. Ruble's father, John Q. Flint, of Du Bois County, Ind., who fought for the Union during three years of the Civil War, and afterward displayed a useful citizenship.

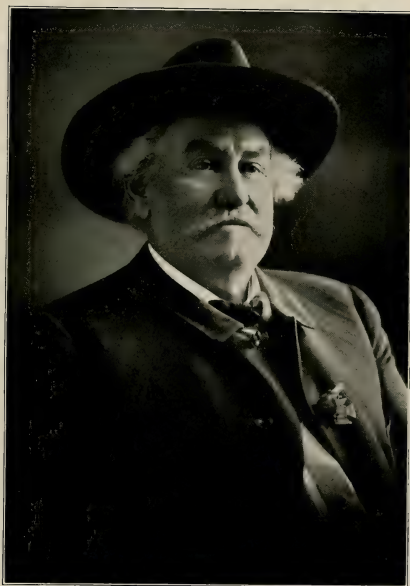
Mr. Ruble is a loyal Democrat in national politics, and in local affairs he votes for the best measures.

HENRY ST. GEORGE L. HOPKINS, M. D.—For over thirty-three years a resident of Fresno and a practicing physician in the city and county, the name of Dr. H. St. George Hopkins was very well and widely known. A gentleman of stately presence and charming manner, he belonged to a type now passing. Of unusual attainments, he held wherever he lived, various important public offices. He was, for a term, president of the County Medical Society, and from 1892 to 1896 was County Health Officer, and in that capacity started a movement for the erection of a drinking fountain at the Mariposa Street entrance to the court house park. The sum of \$1,000 was collected by the Salvation Army for the purpose, and since then countless hundreds have been refreshed by the boy with the dripping boot. Dr. Hopkins was United States Pension Examiner for twenty years, and at the time of his death was Secretary of the Pension Bureau.

In 1900, although sixty-six years of age, the doctor, with characteristic courage, joined the onrushing gold-seekers who were bound for Nome, Alaska, where for a few months he practiced his profession and also served as health officer, returning to his Fresno home in the fall of the same year.

Dr. Hopkins was a life-long Episcopalian and was an honored member of Stirling Price Camp of Confederate Veterans in Fresno.

Henry St. George Lyons Hopkins was a brother of the late Commodore William E. Hopkins, U. S. N., and related to distinguished families of the South. He was born October 21, 1834, on the ancestral estate of "Page Brook," near Winchester, Va., his mother being Abby Byrd Page; his father, John Hopkins, born at "Hill and Dale," the Hopkins plantation in Virginia, was an eminent lawyer in the courts of the state. The grandfather of St. George Hopkins, was John Hopkins, a Colonel in the Army of the Revolution, commanding the Third Virginia Regiment. Before the Declaration of Independence, John Hopkins was "Receiver of Titles and Monies" under the Georges, for that country then known as the Great Northwestern Territory.



H. L. Gu. Watkins M.D.

Young Hopkins received his early education in private schools and the University of Virginia. Entering the University of Pennsylvania, he was graduated from that college with both the academic and medical degrees in 1855. After eighteen months as hospital interne he was employed by the Government on detached service as surgeon in the North Atlantic passenger service between New York and Liverpool, which post he filled for three years. Then, in 1859, he went to Philadelphia where he engaged in the practice of his profession. Of Southern birth and fighting stock, when the Civil War broke out young Dr. Hopkins returned at once to his native state and enlisted as a private in Company H, Twenty-seventh Virginia Infantry, commanded by Captain Kertz, and known as the Stonewall Brigade. True to his ancestry he was a gallant soldier, and for meritorious service was promoted to the rank of major and attached to the staff of General William Pendleton, Chief of Artillery. He was transferred to the Second Virginia Battalion of Artillery, and then to the Third Virginia Battalion of Artillery; then to Third North Carolina Battalion of Artillery, Colonel William P. Nelson commanding, on staff of Major-General D. H. Hill; transferred to medical department by order of General R. E. Lee. Here he was surgeon in charge of ambulance corps, and in charge of General Hospital No. 19, Richmond, Va. He was one of the corps of medical officers to regulate operations in the field, Surgeon of the Bureau of Exchange, and Chief Surgeon on the staff of Major-General Daniel Ruggles of the Middle Medical Department. He surrendered at Atlanta, Ga., to General Upton, U. S. A.

Dr. Hopkins had his share of narrow escapes, and experienced life in an army prison. He was with Stonewall Jackson when the General was killed, and a bullet struck the watch in a pocket over the doctor's heart; always thereafter he treasured that bullet and watch, together with the sword he had carried through the war. For services rendered the cause Dr. Hopkins received the rare Confederate Cross of Honor, and with most justifiable pride wore it the remainder of his life. It went with him to his grave in the family plot in Mountain View Cemetery.

After the war Dr. Hopkins went to Baltimore where he resumed the regular practice of medicine and surgery, and where, in 1866, he married Miss Katherine Dunnington, a lady noted for her beauty and amiable qualities. With his family he removed, in 1870, to Virginia City, Nev., and figured in the stirring events attending the frenzied excitement of the Comstock Discoveries. From Nevada the doctor took his family to Oakland, Cal., in 1878, and there, two years later, his wife died leaving four children: Page, of Sonoma County; Frank Dunnington, who, with the rank of Captain has creditably followed family tradition with the American forces in France and Germany; Mary M. Alexander of Washington, D. C.; and Alice H., wife of A. A. Brigstocke of Reedley, Cal. In the spring of 1881 Dr. Hopkins came to Fresno, bringing his children, and in 1886 was wedded to Miss Annie M. Foster, elder daughter of John and Lydia Foster, whose history appears elsewhere in this work. Of this marriage were born three sons. Henry Lyons, who is Boy Scout Executive for Fresno; Wilson Foster, who passed away May 28, 1915, at the age of twenty-five; and George Hart, who was graduated from the University of Nevada with the class of 1919.

Owing to the death in 1896 of Mrs. Hopkins' only sister, Mrs. Emma Rogers, who had been living with their widowed mother, the doctor with his wife and three young sons, and his daughter Alice, took up his residence in the Foster family home at 1327 K Street. There he lived till May 25, 1914, when his demise at the age of eighty years removed from the city of Fresno one of its most impressive characters, a dignified, genial, courtly gentleman of the old school.

W. FLANDERS SETCHEL.—Born in London, England, September 15, 1882, W. Flanders Setchel was a son of William Samuel and Lavina (Crossley) Setchel. Both parents are still living at Peterborough, Northamptonshire, England. The father is a well-known mechanical engineer, who has given years of service to the English Government, and who, during the late war, was particularly active in the service of Great Britain, and who holds many important positions of a public character. To the parents have been born three children: George, who is a public accountant in London; W. Flanders, the subject of this sketch; and Lavina, who is the wife of Walter Bunney whose father is a merchant prince of Liverpool.

W. Flanders Setchel was taught by a private tutor and took special courses in a London college until he was eighteen, and later became a student of the City of London College, qualifying himself for the profession of public accountant, specializing in commercial law, banking and economics. In 1910, on account of ill health, Mr. Setchel came to the United States and a short time later arrived in California, and settled in Fresno, where he soon recovered his normal health. He was so favorably impressed with the climatic conditions that he decided to make Fresno his home.

Mr. Setchel began buying and selling vineyards throughout the county, and has been very successful. He organized the Setchel Fruit Company in 1915, and became actively interested in the packing and shipping of fresh fruits. The company was later incorporated with Mr. Setchel as president and manager. This corporation owns and controls about 1,200 acres of vineyards and has its own packing-houses at Setch, Wahtoke, Minkler, Melvin, Sanger, Clovis and Lacjac in Fresno County; Hardwick in Kings County; one at Modesto, another at Lodi in San Joaquin County; all specially equipped to handle the packing of fresh fruits. Each year the company has doubled its business of the preceding year. To accommodate its rapidly expanding business, this company has taken a suite of offices on the third floor of the Griffith-McKenzie Building in Fresno. Mr. Setchel is also president of the Valley Fruit Growers' Association of Fresno, which organization has 4,000 members, and controls 300,000 acres of fruit.

Mr. Setchel was married at Oakland, on March 21, 1917, to Mrs. Minnie Carver-Wilson, of Fresno. He is a member of the Sequoia, Commercial, and Sunnyside Country Clubs of Fresno, and of the Commonwealth Club of San Francisco. He manifests his public spirit by supporting all projects for the development of Fresno County, wherein he has won recognition as an up-builder.

HENRY H. WILLIAMS.—An oil man widely experienced in every department of the development and production of oil in this and in foreign countries is Henry H. Williams, who holds a responsible position in Coalinga and has become one of its prominent and influential citizens. He was born in Lagro, Wabash County, Ind., on February 10, 1877, the son of Charles A. Williams, a native of Indiana, of Welsh descent, who was a real estate man and died in the scene of his later activities. He had married Mahala Heaston, who was born in Indiana and now resides at Marion, in that state, the mother of three children, two girls and a boy, all of whom have grown up. The Williams family are traced back to Massachusetts, 1635; members of the family served in the Colonial and Revolutionary wars.

Brought up in Indiana, Henry attended the public school at Marion, and when sixteen began work in the oil fields, commencing at the bottom round of the ladder. As a driller he was with the Standard Oil Company from the middle of his teens, until he was sent by them to Rumania, in 1903, at the beginning of their work there. He continued with them for four years, and in 1907 returned to Indiana.

The following year he came out to California and Coalinga, and was employed on Section 2 as a driller. At the end of the year, however, he went to

Peru, South America, and worked as a driller at Negritos, for the London Pacific Petroleum Company, now owned by the Standard Oil Company. Partly through his expert work, they were fortunate in striking oil, and he remained there for two years.

In 1911 he returned to Coalinga and entered the employ of the Canadian Coalinga Oil Company, where he was superintendent of drilling for about a year. In 1912 he resigned and again engaged as a driller for the Standard Oil Company, on Section 28; and after five years he was advanced to assistant superintendent of the producing department of Coalinga district which occupies all of his time and to the success of which he gives his best efforts.

At Bucharest, Rumania, Mr. Williams was married to Miss Goldie Daugherty, a native of Pittsburg, Pa. The happy couple now have two children: Marita, who was born in Rumania, and Harry, who is a native son of the Golden West.

TRUMAN L. VOORHEES.—A well-known and highly respected citizen of Tranquillity, who has not only improved a good alfalfa farm but has attained success in two different fields—that of the manufacture of brooms, pronounced the best made on the Coast, and the cultivation of bees—is Truman L. Voorhees, born in Buchanan, Berrien County, Mich., on May 20, 1863. His father was James Brown Voorhees, a native of New York and a cooper by trade, who brought his family to Jefferson County, Kans., in 1864, and located on a farm north of Lawrence. He improved the land and contracted to manufacture barrels. In 1872 he removed to Chase County and bought and improved a farm there. He married Lydia Stoddard, a native daughter of Ohio, and they had six children, three of whom are still living. Both parents died in Oklahoma. Truman, one of two in California, is the second youngest of the family.

Brought up in Kansas, he attended the public schools and then remained home to work and help until he was twenty-three. He was first married in Elk County, Kans., to Miss Nellie Phelps, a native of that State, after which he removed to Florissant, Colo., and Cripple Creek, where he engaged in lumbering and mining. Mrs. Voorhees died in Colorado and left five children: Essie M. is Mrs. Higginson of Colorado; James A. served in the United States Army in France; Betsy A., now Mrs. Wight; Nellie M.; and Roy Turner Voorhees, all of Colorado.

After removing to Lincoln, Okla., Mr. Voorhees was married again, on February 12, 1894, to Miss Elma D. Funk, a native of Kansas. Then he leased land and engaged in the raising of cotton and broom-corn. He established a well-equipped factory, and soon made a name as a manufacturer of brooms. Then, in 1905, he removed to California and settled at Dos Palos, where he bought fourteen acres of raw land, which he improved to alfalfa. He followed dairying and also continued the manufacture of brooms, winning a reputation for high-grade goods.

In 1912 he sold out and located in Tranquillity, where he bought forty acres of raw land, which he leveled and checked for alfalfa. He also set up a dairy. He is now leasing the ranch, while he is raising broom-corn and once more making brooms, which he sells in Fresno and throughout the San Joaquin Valley, disposing of them by means of a truck, only in wholesale quantities. In addition to this important industry, Mr. Voorhees is interested in bee-culture, and has an apiary of fifty colonies which produce superior honey. He also deals extensively in poultry and eggs, and has some 350 choice fowls, so that a visit to his home ranch is sure to stimulate one's ambition.

Of the second marriage of Mr. Voorhees there were eight children: Clo, now Mrs. John L. Hart, of Jamison; Glen, who was an apiarist here, and who died at the age of twenty-one, on November 15, 1918; Arthur, in the garage business in Tranquillity; and Blanche, Mattie, Paul, Irene, and Leslie, all at home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Voorhees are members of the Church of Christ at Tranquillity.

S. JOHN HEIBERG.—Among Fresno's other successful industries is the Fresno Brewery, the only institution of its kind between San Francisco and Los Angeles. Its large business is due to a very considerable extent to the efficiency of its enterprising superintendent and brewing master, S. John Heiberg. Mr. Heiberg was born in Viborg, Denmark, May 11, 1880, and is the son of Dr. P. W. and Minna Heiberg, both of whom are living.

We generally think of Denmark in connection with the dairy industry, as it has a world-wide reputation for the excellency of the products of its dairy; but that they have also brought to a high degree of perfection the art of brewing is evidenced by the fact that it was in the city of Copenhagen that Mr. Heiberg learned the brewing business. He received his education in the very excellent schools of Denmark, which are quite as noted for thoroughness as the schools of their neighbor, Germany. After finishing school he began his life work, taking up the business of brewer and mastering it in its minutest details. He learned the business in Munich and Copenhagen in the old country, completing it in the American city of Chicago, becoming an expert in the line of master brewer, after which he was with the Conrad Seipp Brewing Company in the latter city as assistant superintendent and brewing master. In March, 1912, he came to Fresno and assumed his present position. Since taking charge of the Fresno Brewery he has made many and costly improvements in the brewery, among others the installation of a complete laboratory in which he makes all his own tests.

His marriage, November 2, 1901, united him with Miss Zenia Schultz, and they are the parents of three children, Ellie, Asta, and Peter W.

In his religious convictions Mr. Heiberg is a member of the Danish Lutheran Church. He is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Woodmen of the World as well as being connected with the Danish Brotherhood and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

J. A. SCHLOTTHAUER.—One of the prime movers in the organization of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association is J. A. Schlotthauer. He and his wife worked hard to lay aside a certain competency; and one of their first investments was a course for both in a business college. Now Mr. Schlotthauer, ably assisted by his wife, has made for himself an enviable reputation as an orchardist and viticulturist who both understands how to grow and how to sell.

Mr. Schlotthauer was born in Marion County, Kans., on September 17, 1881, the son of the Rev. George Adam Schlotthauer, who was a clergyman of the Seventh Day Adventist Church. In 1889 he removed with his family to the State of Washington and settled near Colfax, in the Palouse country, where he farmed at the same time that he preached the Gospel. In 1903 he came to California and bought twenty acres near Easton in Fresno County. He set out a vineyard and an orchard, and he still remained faithful in his ministry. He had three charges—at Exeter, Dinuba and Fresno—and when he passed away, at Visalia in October, 1914, he was mourned by many who had profited through his unselfish life. Mrs. Schlotthauer was Maria K. Schmidt before her marriage, and she resides in Exeter. She is the mother of ten children, all of whom are still living.

J. A. Schlotthauer, the fourth child in the family, received the foundation of his education at the public schools, after which he early went to work, so that from a lad he helped his father on the home farm. Then he engaged in wheat raising with his brother and for that purpose leased 800 acres of land. While at Colfax, Wash., he was married to Lydia Schreiber, who was born in Nebraska; and after their marriage he and his wife attended Walla Walla College for a year.

In 1904 he located at Biola, in Fresno County, where he bought forty acres of raw land, and soon set out a vineyard and planted alfalfa. Three years later he sold out at a profit, and then he removed to the vicinity of Exeter, where he bought 105 acres on the Kaweah River, where he engaged in dairying and stock-



Mr. & Mrs. C. H. Palmer

raising for four years, when he again sold out at a profit. He then entered Heald's Business College at Fresno, where he took a business course, after which he located in Tulare County, farming there until he bought his present place at Barstow. This included eighty acres bought on January 22, 1914, only nine of which were improved; and there he set out thirty-one acres in Thompson seedless grapes, five acres of Elberta peaches, fifteen acres of peaches and figs inter-set, fifteen acres in figs and the balance in apricots, with an orange grove of two acres now in bearing. Mr. Schlotthauer also owns eighty acres at Caruthers, sixty of which are set out to peaches and twenty to apricots; and besides managing these properties, he is engaged in general contracting for leveling and checking lands.

One child, Harold, has blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Schlotthauer. Mr. Schlotthauer is a member of the Woodmen of the World; the Adventist Church and clerk of the board, and while in Tulare County was trustee of the Venice school district. He is also a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company, and he helped to organize the Fresno Cooperative Dairyman's Association, acting as its first secretary. Out of it grew the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers' Association, of which he is a member and its first secretary.

CONRAD H. NILMEIER.—In the life of this successful rancher of the Biola district is shown what can be accomplished by strong hands and a keen mind, coupled with perseverance and energy, judicious management, and strict integrity. C. H. Nilmeier was born in Stepnoski, Samara, Russia, October 25, 1874, the son of Conrad and Kathrina (Kerber) Nilmeier, both now deceased, the former in 1908, and the latter in 1880.

The second oldest in a family of five born to his parents, C. H. was educated in the public schools of his native province and assisted his father on the home farm until 1898. That year marks his arrival in Fresno County. His first employment here was for the Southern Pacific Railway, for two years; he then went with the California Products Company and learned the business from the bottom, and became foreman, a position he held for three years. For one year after that he followed teaming in Fresno.

In 1904, Mr. Nilmeier bought his ranch of forty acres on Barstow Avenue, Biola district. It was then raw land and he put in all the improvements that go to make it a splendid ranch, and brought it to a high state of cultivation. He set out Thompson seedless vines and now has twenty acres devoted to that culture, the balance being in muscat grapes. He installed wells and has built his new residence on the property, one of the finest ranches in the district.

The marriage of Mr. Nilmeier occurred on January 15, 1895, in Russia, and united him with Miss Katherine Horg, also born there. Eight children brighten their home: Annie, Lillia, David, Emma, Solomon, Lizzie, Elias and Samuel. The family attends the Zion Congregational Church in Fresno. Mr. Nilmeier is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. He is a hustler, a man who does things, and his success is deservedly a matter of pride and an example.

WILLIAM U. WALDER.—One of the oldest remaining settlers in the Arizona district who is well-posted and interesting is William U. Walder, who first came to California in 1888, and was fortunate to begin his career of prosperity in Fresno as early as 1892. He was born near East Grinstead, Sussex, England, on May 31, 1862, the son of Walter Walder, a farmer, now retired. He had married Harriet Uridge, a devoted wife now deceased. Seven children were born to the worthy couple, among whom William was the oldest and is the only one now in the United States.

Brought up on a farm, he attended the public schools of his neighborhood and remained in his native country until he was twenty-two. Then, in 1884, he went to New Zealand, sailing around the Cape of Good Hope; and he was fortu-

nate, during three years of residence in Auckland, to find his health steadily improving.

In 1887 he went back to England, traveling by a steamer that circled Cape Horn; and the following year, when the effect of the great California boom was being felt even in Europe, he came out to San Francisco by way of the Pacific. He liked the country so well that he settled in Alameda County and there followed landscape gardening.

He was married there to Miss Emma Evans, a native of England of Welsh descent who had previously gone to New Zealand with a sister, where the subject of our sketch met her. Later she traveled to Australia; and still later came out to California.

In 1892 Mr. Walder located in Fresno and found employment as a horticulturist near Centerville, where he set out orange orchards. In 1894 he went to West Park. Four years later, he located in Arizona Colony and engaged to take care of orchards. In 1900 he bought his present place of twenty acres on Purley Avenue. This property was hog wallow when he purchased it; but he set to work energetically to level and otherwise improve it, and he built himself a comfortable residence with well-improved grounds. He also set out a fine orchard of Elberta, Muir and Lovell peaches; and since then he has paid particular attention to the study of peaches, becoming an authority upon the subject. He has raised nursery stock and set out several orchards for others. He has long exhibited peaches at State fairs and in chamber of commerce exhibits, and has obtained favorable comment.

No more public-spirited citizen could be found than William Walder; for he has not only endeavored to earn his own prosperity, but he has energetically striven to advance the interests through which the people of Central California and indeed throughout the state might hope to prosper. He is a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and has been so from its organization. A Republican in matters of national politics, he is one of the first to throw party lines to the winds in promoting local movements designed to uplift the community.

Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Walder: Florence M., who was a teacher, is now the wife of Elmer Johnson and lives at Armona; Ethel J. is teaching in this county; and George W. is attending the Fresno High School. The family are Seventh Day Adventists and are affiliated with that church in Fresno.

RALPH M. CUSHMAN.—An energetic rancher of good executive ability living in the Riverdale sector of Fresno County, is Ralph M. Cushman, the representative of a very distinguished early Pilgrim family. His father was Royal David Cushman, who married Ada Keiser, and he was a branch of the State of Maine descendants of Robert Cushman, the Pilgrim who had much to do with the migration of the early Protestant fathers to Holland, and later furthered the project of the migration to New England. There have been thirteen generations of the Cushmans since their settlement in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and our subject belongs to the twelfth. His parents reside at the St. Helena Sanatorium. One only sister, Helen Cushman, dwells in San Francisco.

Mr. Cushman was born at Fallon, Churchill County, Nev., on March 28, 1889, and came to Oakland, where he attended the Polytechnic school and Business College. At the age of nineteen, he came here and rented for a year the place of old "Uncle" Job Malsbury. On the settlement of the estate, Mr. Cushman was forced to give up his lease, and it was then that he entered the service of Mr. Lewis. He worked by the month, stuck faithfully "on the job," and made good and established both name and credit.

In 1911, Mr. Cushman was married to Miss Tina Lewis, the daughter of John B. Lewis, who was a native of Bond County, Ill., where he was born in 1862. His father died in 1879, before which time John received the benefits of a common school education. Remaining home until 1880, he came to California

in that year with his mother. Six years later he engaged in the stock business on his own account in the Riverdale district, and there he lived until he purchased forty acres, nine miles from Laton, on the west. Later he added 700 acres, much of which he used for grazing purposes. Besides an extensive cattle business, Mr. Lewis had a finely appointed dairy with forty cows. At Gilroy, in Santa Clara County, he was married to Miss Nannie A. Turner, the daughter of James H. Turner of Monterey County, who crossed the plains in 1849 and again in 1852. He was a stockraiser and general farmer. Miss Turner became a teacher in Fresno, Santa Clara and Butte counties, and in time the responsibility was hers of teaching two children of her own: a son, Alfred T., and a daughter, Tina. Mr. Lewis was always distinguished for his public-spiritedness, and among the projects whose success was due in part to his efforts, was the building of the Farmers' Telephone.

Mr. Cushman is now proprietor of the Altina Stock Farm, long owned by Mr. Lewis, having made the purchase in 1914. There he has built an excellent dairy barn 75x117 feet in size, and also a horse barn and a fine residence. He has built two De Laval Twin Silos, each having a capacity of 154 tons; installed an Empire milking machine, and he owns four full-blooded Holstein bulls of the Julian and Johanna strains. He milks every day 100 cows, and he owns 600 head of cattle in all.

With two other persons, Mr. Cushman rents 4,000 acres of swamp land, which is used for grazing; the other partners being Dr. Sifton and C. A. Smith. he has also bought the old Northcraft place of 240 acres, a little north and west of the J. B. Lewis place, and he owns and operates that in connection with the Altina stock ranch.

Mr. Cushman is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers' Association, and a director in the same; and fraternally he belongs to the Riverdale Odd Fellows. His is a commanding personality, and his influence is felt for good in many lines of business, social and political endeavor.

SILVIO ZANOLINI.—A generous-hearted and public-spirited man, is Silvio Zanolini, the pioneer butter-maker, who owns two good ranches, which he has improved with dwelling-houses, barns and other out-buildings, and planted to alfalfa. He runs the smaller ranch of forty acres, and rents out the larger ranch to tenants. He has the distinction of being the first butter-maker at Riverdale, and as such was employed by "Uncle" Job Malsbury on his dairy-farm at what is now Riverdale. He lives three miles west and one mile south of Riverdale, and he has resided thirty years in this locality.

Mr. Zanolini was born in the Canton Ticino, Switzerland, on July 28, 1859, and remained in that country until he was fourteen, when he went to England and there learned the trade of a watch and clock maker. He worked at Cardiff, South Wales, from 1873 to 1877, after which he returned to Switzerland for a farewell visit of a couple of months. Then he started for America, sailing from Antwerp, and after landing at New York, came right to Petaluma, Cal., where he worked for a year on a dairy farm in Sonoma County. For four years he worked for John Cerini in Sonoma County, and for three years he worked for other folks at Bodega. He next rented a dairy farm near Salinas, but in a year went back to Bodega. The next year when he was nineteen years old, he came to the Riverdale section.

In partnership with Rocco S. Gobby, he rented the John's ranch for a couple of years; but on account of the mortality among cattle due to the Texas fever, he quit and went to work for Mr. Malsbury, who was then running a ranch and a dairy—in fact the first butter-making establishment where Riverdale now stands.

Our subject then bought a ranch of 178 acres immediately west of the Riverdale school house which he still owns. At first the Riverdale school was located in the middle of his field; but as it was desired to have the new buildings on Mt. Whitney Avenue, Mr. Zanolini traded land, giving the school district the two

acres where the school house now stands. He bought the old school house and converted it into a dwelling, which he still owns.

Mr. Zanolini improved still another ranch of 120 acres, which he sold to John Cerini three years ago. He owns stock in the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery, and also in the First National Bank of Riverdale.

Public-spirited in the highest degree, and ready to advance the interests of the community in any way that he can, Mr. Zanolini gave about four acres of right of way for a county road, running north and south, and he also donated money for the building of the United Brethren Church at Riverdale, as well as the Catholic Church at Lanare, to which he belongs. As a stand-pat Republican, he made a departure in voting for President Wilson.

Mr. Zanolini has a brother who is a large dairy farmer in Santa Rosa, and a sister, Jacomina, now the wife of Mr. Ghidelli, a transfer man or teamster in the Alps, who is living at Cevio, Switzerland.

Both of Mr. Zanolini's parents are dead. His father was John B., and his mother Mary (Pedrazzi) Zanolini, each of whom was born at Linescio in the Canton Ticino. The father was a stone-mason, contractor and builder, who erected houses and stone-bridges and public works.

AUGUST METZLER.—A successful West Side wheat farmer and grain grower, the owner of 100 acres at Helm, which he bought in March, 1918, is August Metzler. He also rents the Admiral Clover ranch of 640 acres, which he farms to grain. Here he resides with his wife, who was Miss Annie Pretzer, who was born in Fresno County. She is a daughter of Wm. and Katie Pretzer, who reside in the suburbs of Fresno.

Mr. and Mrs. Metzler have five children: Mary, Alex, Rosa, August, and Edward. Mr. Metzler came to Fresno County, February 10, 1907, directly from his native home in the Valley of the Volga. He was born February 24, 1887, in Samara, Russia, about seventy-five miles from Saratof. Of a family of four children he and his elder brother, Peter, who lives in Fresno, grew to manhood. His parents were Peter and Mary Marie Metzler; she died when August was only seven years old. The father was a farmer and was alive three years ago, but Mr. Metzler has not heard from him since then.

Having some relatives in Fresno County, Mr. Metzler made up his mind to see California, so he left his home in Russia, December 29, 1906, and reached Fresno, February 20, 1907. He started working as a farm hand, saved his money, and in 1909 rented the ranch where he now resides. About 100 acres of his land is in alfalfa, and the balance he farms to wheat. Mr. Metzler uses tractor power in most of his farming operations, owning a seventy-five horsepower Holt caterpillar tractor, and a combined harvester and thresher.

A. R. LE FEVRE.—One of the most highly respected citizens of Fresno County, is A. R. Le Fevre, who resides on his well-improved sixty-acre ranch on the North McCall Road, about four miles north of Selma, where he has resided since 1900. He has recently purchased another neighboring ranch of twenty acres which, like the home ranch, is devoted to raisin grapes, the latter place being operated by his adopted son, John S. Le Fevre.

A. R. Le Fevre was born near Auburn, N. Y., September 23, 1849. His father was a wheelwright who took Josh Billings' advice and "went to Washington." D. C. Shortly before the outbreak of the Civil War, he became a farmer at Fairfax Court House, about half way between Washington and Bull Run, and was engaged in farming and market gardening at the time of the war. As a boy, A. R. Le Fevre heard the roar of artillery and saw the smoke of the various battles on Bull Run and peddled vegetables to both armies. During these terrible days school was abandoned for four years, while the dangers and hardships incident to that time and place can better be imagined than described. He grew up on his father's farm and for two years he clerked in a store, but his main occupation was farming at Fairfax, Va., until he came to Fresno County, Cal., February 1, 1888. He first settled east of Fowler and for many years was en-



G. M. Nishkian
Mrs. G. M. Nishkian

gaged in wheat-farming. Since coming to the present place, he has devoted himself to raisin-growing and has taken an active interest in cooperating with and furthering the best interests of the raisin growers. He has become a man of wide acquaintance and is one of the most highly respected citizens of the community because of his firm adherence to principles of right and justice and his uncompromising attitude on matters relating to temperance. His scrupulous regard for decency, truth and right, is no doubt inherited from his ancestors who were French Huguenots who settled near Kingston in Ulster County, N. Y., about the year 1600. He is the third child in a family of five children of Peter J. and Sarah E. (Hutchinson) Le Fevre, the former having been born in New York and the latter in Connecticut. Of their five children: one boy and one girl are deceased; one girl is Mary E. H. Flower of Long Beach, and one is Mrs. C. E. Ross of Fowler.

A. R. Le Fevre was married at Fresno to Miss Agnes Boyd, a woman of sterling worth and they now have a comfortable and happy home. They have legally adopted a son, John S. Le Fevre, who is now a young man and who is ably assisting Mr. Le Fevre in his ranching operations.

By his consistent hard work, Mr. Le Fevre has contributed much to the material upbuilding of Fresno County.

GARABED M. NISHKIAN.—A well-educated, broad-minded, charitable and prominent man was Garabed M. Nishkian, the pioneer raisin-grower who passed away four years ago leaving as his widow a very cultured and refined woman, equally esteemed and beloved by those who know her. He was born in the Oriental city of Erzeroum, Turkish Armenia, on August 27, 1855, a member of a noted family, and the son of Marderos Nishkian, who was a merchant in Constantinople. He grew up to be a patriotic leader famed in his country, and the only survivor, thirty-two years ago, of a party of fifty which led an uprising against the Turkish atrocities. He was the only one of these patriots to escape after death sentence had been passed by the Turkish Government; for in about 1883, while he even carried a copy of his death sentence with him, he fled across the Caucasian border and finally made his way to America, where he joined a cousin, Peter Nishkian, a chemist in the employ of the Armour Packing Company, Kansas City, Mo. A few months later he came to California, in 1884, and seeing the possibilities here for raisins, he established a vineyard. Shortly after his arrival, he was photographed, holding the death sentence in his hand, with chains on one side of him and the American flag as the emblem of liberty on the other; and this photograph, with a copy of a patriotic song he had composed, he sent to his family still in Erzeroum, a little while later arranging for the transportation here of his mother, four brothers and a sister.

About 1890 he was married at Fresno to Miss Horopik Magaria, a native of the same place from which he came, whose father was a large farmer and had his headquarters in Constantinople. There she was reared and educated; and there she has a brother who is a judge. They engaged in viticulture in the Scandinavian Colony about 1890, continued there till 1899, when they purchased their well-known place, devoting the forty acres to vine-growing. It is a beautiful place on White's Bridge Road, four miles west of Fresno, and there Mr. Nishkian passed away in December, 1915. He had been ill for three years, and in a declining condition for several weeks, and he went to his last rest only a few days after his mother had passed away, who had reached the ripe old age of eighty-eight.

One of the four children of Mr. and Mrs. Nishkian, Dearan, died when he was seventeen; and at Mr. Nishkian's death, there were living his widow, Mrs. Horopik Nishkian; a son, Odar, who married Lucy Kaprialian, doing service for his country overseas in the Fortieth Division, United States Army, in France, 1918 and 1919, returning home in May of the latter year, and since his honorable discharge is assisting his mother in the operating and manage-

ment of the ranch; a daughter, Zarouhi, who is Mrs. Metchonian of Fresno; another son, Vaughan, who is an auto expert in Fresno; a sister, Mrs. I. Garey; and three brothers, M. M., M. N., and K. M. Nishkian, still living in Fresno.

Garabed M. Nishkian belonged to the Armenian Holy Trinity Church, from which he was buried, two thousand friends attending and making the funeral a notable occasion. The services were conducted by the Rev. V. Casparian and Theodore Isaacs, and at the cemetery short speeches were made by E. Shahinian and A. Equinian, countrymen of the deceased. A glowing tribute was paid to the departed by E. S. Ardzrooni. The latter said in part:

"Mr. Nishkian was born in an environment where tyranny and oppression reigned, and as early as 1881 he devoted himself to the liberation of his race, subjugated by the Turkish rule. Thus he joined the council of seven other leaders and launched a national policy of liberation, and though revolutionary in principle, the real purpose of the movement aimed to awaken public intelligence and through conciliatory measures reach the long-desired freedom. With Nishkian's leadership an epochal political reform movement was at once felt throughout the country; but however destined he seemed to play the part of a national hero, the movement was halted, and the associates of Nishkian were captured and put to death. Only young Nishkian escaped, leaving a death sentence and a shattered ideal behind. He eluded the Turkish authorities at Constantinople where, disguised, he was kept in hiding by his elder brother who was also affiliated with the movement. His views in later days on the political situation of Armenia stood in strange contrast to his earlier doctrine. He realized that without a concerted and constructive attempt, and without the aid and active sympathy of friendly nations, the cause of his country could never advance. In justice to his sacred memory it must be said that he lived in advance of his time. The effects of his theory may indeed often be traced in his practice. His liberal contributions to charity flowed from a generous and devoted heart, and he gave most unostentatiously. He felt a certain contempt for mankind; defied the commonly-accepted creeds of society, and always presented a forceful personality and an uncompromising disposition, once his conclusions had been formed."

MR. and MRS. H. W. RUSSELL.—Born at St. Joseph, Mo., January 15, 1866, H. W. Russell came to California in 1869 with his parents, George C. and Mary L. (Curtis) Russell, both parents having been born in New York State, and married there. They settled in San Francisco, where the father was a carpenter and later moved to San Jose. H. W. was the only boy in a family of three children. His two sisters are Mrs. Carrie P. Fowler, a widow, residing with her mother, who is past eighty years of age, at San Jose, and Lottie, now the wife of L. B. Pollard of Fresno. From San Jose the family moved to Fresno in March, 1879, settling in the Mendocino district, where the father bought government land and improved a tract of 160 acres. They lived there for five years and then moved back to San Jose. Mr. George C. Russell died at the home of his son in Dinuba in 1911 and is buried at San Jose.

Mrs. H. W. Russell, nee Iambie A. Carr, is the third child and second daughter of the well-known Fresno County pioneer, T. W. Carr, who now lives at San Miguel, San Luis Obispo County. He came to Fresno County in 1875 and helped promote and dig the Kingsburg and Centerville ditch. He was one of the first ditch superintendents on that ditch. He was born in Ohio and moved to Iowa where he was married to Miss Helen McClosky, a native of Pennsylvania. She died at Dinuba in 1906 and lies buried in the Mendocino Cemetery in Fresno County. She left eight children: Robert, a rancher at Gridley, Butte County; Sophie, the wife of A. J. Salladay of Terra Bella; Iambie A.; Oscar, who resides at Coalinga; Benjamin T., residing at Parkfield, Monterey County; Maggie, the wife of E. O. Reese of Kerman; Bertha, wife of W. H. Gilstrap, she died in 1917 and left one child, Bernice; and John W., who resides at Oroville.

Iambie A. Carr was born at Milton, Iowa, and was but seven years of age when she came to California. She attended the Mendocino district school and later the Selma High school and was a member of the first class graduated from Selma High in 1885. She was a student at the San Jose Normal later and taught school for four years in Fresno and Tulare counties.

She was married at Lompoc to Mr. H. W. Russell, April 8, 1891, and they lived at various places on the Coast until they came to Dinuba in 1906, where Mr. Russell planted and improved a seventy-acre ranch. They came back to Fresno County in 1913 where he improved a ranch at Sanger. In November, 1918, they moved back to Fresno where they now reside.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell are the parents of five children: H. Warren, a rancher near Fresno; Ila H., the wife of E. R. Hudson, cashier of the First National Bank of Sanger; Ralph C., a graduate of the Sanger High School who enlisted and was in the Officers Training School at Waco, Texas, at the signing of the armistice, and is now at home; Elmer W. and Glen C., both living at home.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell are members of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Fresno.

CHARLES H. BYRD.—Charles H. Byrd is the owner of forty acres in the De Wolf district, where he resides with his family, ten miles southeast of Fresno. He is a son of the late John H. Byrd, the pioneer of Kings River. His mother is still living in Fresno.

C. H. Byrd was born on the old Byrd Ranch on the Kings River, August 2, 1876. He was raised on the home ranch and attended the home district school and was graduated from the Fresno High School in 1898. Since leaving school he has been engaged in ranching and horticulture.

He was united in marriage to Miss Catherine Collins, a daughter of the late J. D. Collins, in September, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Byrd have three children: Charles Collins, J. D., and Stanley.

After the death of Mr. Byrd's father, he and his wife settled in the De Wolf district on the twenty acres given to his wife by J. D. Collins.

They have greatly improved the place and it is now planted to vines and trees in full bearing, and fifteen acres are in alfalfa. They have a beautiful bungalow, barns, tray sheds and pumping plant.

Mr. Byrd is a member of the board of trustees of the De Wolf school district and is a Mason. In politics he is a Democrat.

R. J. HEISKELL.—R. J. Heiskell, a raisin grower owning thirty-four acres of well-improved land on North Avenue, twelve miles southeast of Fresno in the Highland school district, is a native son of Fresno County. His father, J. M. Heiskell of Clovis, is a Fresno County pioneer and is now living retired at Clovis. He came to California right after the Civil War. R. J. Heiskell is his second son and the third child of a family of five children: W. J., a cattle raiser, who resides at Clovis; Margaret, who resides in Fresno; Robert J.; Bettie, residing in Fresno; and Kate, the wife of Fred Wolf, an electrician in the Navy Yard at Mare Island, residing at Berkeley.

R. J. Heiskell was born March 29, 1873, seven miles northeast of Clovis, which was the Heiskell home farm at that time. His father was born in Tennessee and was married there to Miss Mary Jack. When he first came to California, a year or two after his marriage, he went to Stanislaus County, where he grain-farmed. From there he came to Fresno County and continued at grain-farming near Clovis in the Dry Creek country and it was there that R. J. Heiskell grew up. His mother passed away about twenty years ago.

He attended the public school and most of his education was obtained at the old Mississippi school. Later he went to business college at Fresno. After he was of age, he rented land near Clovis and there grain-farmed for several years.

He was married in 1901 to Miss Mary Ethel Collins, the eldest child of the late J. D. Collins.

Mr. Heiskell bought his present place of thirty-four acres in 1908, at which time it was nothing but a grain field. It is now a lovely vineyard, very productive, in one of Fresno County's best raisin districts. There are twenty-four acres planted to Muscats, two acres to Thompsons, five acres to Zinfandels, and a comfortable house, with barn, drying yards and an alfalfa field make up the balance.

Mr. Heiskell is a Democrat in politics.

ERNEST VICTOR BRISCOE.—Ernest Victor Briscoe, the eldest son of R. W. Briscoe, was born at Malaga, January 29, 1890, and grew up on his father's ranches. He attended the Malaga public schools and the Fresno and Heald's Business Colleges in Fresno. Mr. Briscoe resides on his forty-acre vineyard in the De Wolf district, and recently purchased from his father 120 acres at Kerman, which is also in vineyard.

His father was not only an extensive landowner and vineyardist, but also a stockman, hence Ernest Briscoe is conversant with almost every branch of agriculture.

He spent the year 1913 at Glendale, near Phoenix, Ariz., and while there planted 160 acres to alfalfa.

He was married in Fresno on August 20, 1915, to Miss Margaret Weimert of Fresno County, a daughter of W. E. and Pearl Weimert, ranchers in the Barstow Colony. They have one child, Dorothy Louise.

Mr. Briscoe is a member of the Baptist Church at Malaga and Mrs. Briscoe belongs to the Brethren Church at Fresno.

CHARLES A. HIVELY.—A native son who has had a very valuable experience as an oil man, and who very naturally takes a live interest in public affairs pertaining to Coalinga, is Charles A. Hively, field superintendent of the fuel department of the Southern Pacific Railroad. He was born at Oakdale, Cal., on June 23, 1870, the son of William Snyder Hively, a native of Bath County, Va., one of five brothers, two of whom served in the Union Army during the Civil War. The Hivelys are really of old Virginia stock, and are therefore from among the most representative Southern aristocracy.

William S. Hively came to California in the latter fifties, and here married Mary J. Christian, who was born in Chariton, Iowa, and crossed the great plains in an ox team train to California, accompanying her two brothers. After mining in the Sierras, he located at Oakdale, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising; and in 1876 he came to Tulare County, and pitched his tent near Tipton, one of the early settlements, where he homesteaded, improved and farmed 160 acres of land, until he retired to Dinuba. There he died, at the ripe old age of over eighty years. Mrs. Hively passed away in Riverside, five years before her husband, the mother of three children, two (twin) boys and a girl. The other son is W. A. Hively, a successful farmer of Turlock.

Charles A. Hively was reared at Tipton and sent to the public schools there, after which he went to Washington College, at Irvington in Santa Clara County, where he completed the course of study prescribed. Then he raised grain in Tulare County, but in 1900 entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad at Bakersfield. He was clerk in the freight offices under W. V. Matlack of Bakersfield, but in 1901 was transferred to the oil department at McKittrick, where he rose rapidly from a clerkship until he became superintendent of the Kern Trading and Oil Company. In November, 1905, he was transferred to Bakersfield and continued there until November 17, 1909, when he was transferred to Coalinga.

As field superintendent, Mr. Hively has grown up with the company, commencing with some eight or ten wells on the south side in the McKittrick field, having a production of 10,000 barrels a month; in four years the production has increased to about 45,000 barrels per month. This wonderful



C. A. Hively

growth has also occurred in the Kern River field, where the production, while Mr. Hively was superintendent, rose from 40,000 barrels a month to 130,000. Since 1916 the company has been known as the Fuel Oil Department of the Southern Pacific Railroad. Mr. Hively was fortunate in early being associated with two or three men of signal ability, so that his experience was more valuable than that accorded the average man. He was for a while in intimate cooperation with Josiah Owens, the geologist for the Kern Trading and Oil Company, a splendid scientist and a man of good judgment. He also worked under J. B. Treadwell, head of the oil department. Now Mr. Hively is a member of the American Mining Congress. He has been interested in different companies for promoting the oil industry and related projects. He is also vice-president of the Baker Casing Shoe Company.

At Visalia, on February 14, 1891, Mr. Hively was married to Miss Ina Foster, a native of Guerneville, Sonoma County, Cal., whose father, William Foster, crossed the plains a pioneer to California. He became a lumberman, and was an expert ox-driver in the lumber woods in the early days. Mr. and Mrs. Hively have a daughter, Vera, a graduate of Stanford University, where she received the Bachelor of Arts degree. She also attended Miss Conklin's school in New York City and graduated from the secretarial department.

Mr. Hively is a member of the Hanford Lodge of Elks, and was made a Mason in Bakersfield Lodge, No. 224, F. & A. M., and he is a member of the Coalinga Chapter of Royal Arch Masons. He is also president of the Growlers Club of Coalinga, and is thus prominent socially as well as in financial and business circles. He was a director of the Coalinga Chapter of the Red Cross, and president of the Coalinga War Fund Association, and was very successful, as a member of the Liberty Bond drive committee, in raising funds for the war.

F. TUCKER.—A wide-awake Ford agent and dealer who is not only favorably known in Selma, but has an enviable reputation beyond the bounds of this enterprising town, is F. Tucker who came to California with a couple of willing hands, a good head and a brave, warm heart, and today, as a natural result, is the possessor of a snug little fortune. Complete mastery of the details of the business, as well as a belief in square dealing and prompt, reliable service have contributed to build up his large trade. He now owns and occupies the largest garage building in Selma, at the corner of Second and West Front Streets, which contains an ample machine shop, offices and display rooms. He handles Fordson Tractors and Ford autos, and accessories.

Born near Greeley, Kans., on November 5, 1879, Mr. Tucker grew up in "The Garden of the West," enjoyed the excellent common-school advantages of that state, and grew robust under summer heat and winter cold. Not until August, 1911, after he had often reflected on the advantages of life west of the Rockies, did the ambitious young American, now grown to manhood, come out to the Pacific; but from the first day that he breathed the air of California, he knew that he had found what he had long dreamed about.

Settling temporarily in Fresno, he worked for a year for the Ford agent there, and then, initiated into the perfect routine which has always characterized the business ways of that automobile system, he removed to Selma and established the agency here. From almost the start, he won favor with the local public, and success has attended his efforts beyond his most sanguine expectations. His sales for the year 1917 were 178 cars, for 1918 he had a contract for 192 automobiles, while in 1919 his contract is for 250 cars, and he will handle the Fordson tractor besides. It is doubtful if any other dealer in the state can make a better showing, limit of territory and other conditions being taken into account.

Mr. Tucker, however, has one or two specific items for which he is justly proud. He unloaded the first car-lot of automobiles ever consigned to Selma, no other dealer before him ever having brought in a carload of machines. The

total number of Fords he has disposed of up to date is more than 1,200. These come to him from the Detroit factory only partly assembled; and they are finally and expertly put together at the Tucker shop.

The surprising thing about Mr. Tucker's success with his Selma agency is the limitation of the territory in which he is expected to operate. It runs east only as far as the river, for Fowler has its own agency, and so has Kingsburg, the well-kept agency at the latter place being managed by Mr. Tucker's brother. Considering, therefore, the very limited area of the district to which he is by Ford ethics strictly confined, Mr. Tucker probably holds not only the California, but the United States record for sales in a five-year period, a fact which speaks for the general prosperity of the vicinity as well as the thrift and good judgment of the inhabitants of Selma. His machine-shop is connected with his commodious, clean and well-kept garage.

While in Kansas, Mr. Tucker was married to Miss Levora Reynolds of that state, by whom he has had two children, Florence and Frederick. In the suburbs, northwest of Selma, he has built himself a beautiful home, and there he lives with his interesting family.

Having thus been the very satisfactory representative of the Fords at Selma for the past six years, Mr. Tucker has not only kept on hand a large stock of Ford accessories, but he has always had a sufficient force of competent machinists to meet every demand of his numerous and appreciative patrons. The result is that he has one of the best-paying branches to be found anywhere on the Coast.

EUGENE A. BERRYHILL.—The genealogy of the Berryhill family in the United States is traced back to Colonial Days before the signing of the Declaration of Independence, to the great-grandfather of E. A. Berryhill, who gave his life in the cause of liberty and freedom, during his service in the Revolutionary War. The Berryhill family is of Scotch ancestry. The grandparents of E. A. Berryhill, were M. W. and Katherine C. Berryhill, who were the parents of ten children, nine of whom grew to maturity and three migrated to California: O. D.; F. A.; and Sarah M.; three other members of the family reside in Missouri.

Olando DeKalb Berryhill, the father of Eugene A., was born in Arkansas, in 1859, and received his early education in the public schools of Arkansas and Missouri. In 1875, when about sixteen years of age, he arrived in the Golden State without money or experience, his chief assets being a clear mind, a strong and healthy body, and a firm determination to win success. His first employment was secured at Santa Rosa, where he worked one year in a rock quarry. Subsequently he moved to the San Joaquin Valley, settled in Tulare County and engaged in grain-raising, beginning with 160 acres, and continuing in the business for fifteen years. In 1897, he entered the raisin business and has continued in this industry ever since. His first purchase of vine land consisted of eighty acres, later he bought forty acres more, which he set out to vines, and upon which ranch he is now residing. Subsequently he purchased sixty acres from the Sacramento Bank, which place he afterwards sold. At present, O. D. Berryhill owns fifty acres devoted to grapes, and his wife has a vineyard of fifty-five acres which yields a fine crop of grapes.

On June 12, 1879, O. D. Berryhill was united in marriage with Miss Angelina Myers, a native of Missouri, who migrated to California in 1875, and the daughter of Conrad Myers. This union was blessed with seven children: Herbert F.; Eugene A.; Edith; Mrs. Henry Estes; Homer L.; Claude Chalmers; Leonard R.; and Gussie. Leonard R. and Claude C. both demonstrated their patriotism by answering their country's call to the colors and saw over a year's service in France, in the Aviation Corps of the United States Army. Leonard R. entered the service in December, 1917, and for ability was promoted to the rank of corporal. Claude C. was

mustered into service in July, 1917, and trained on Long Island, N. Y. and was made a sergeant for capable service. Both brothers were ordered for overseas duty, going at different times, and were united in France.

Eugene A. Berryhill, the subject of this review, was born October 15, 1884, on his father's ranch in Fresno County and received his early education in the public schools of the Rosedale, Mendocino, Hills Valley and Sand Creek districts. Since his school days were over he has engaged in ranching and is now located about four and one-half miles southwest of Sanger, living on the ranch where he was born and of which he is the owner.

On November 25, 1906, Eugene A. Berryhill was united in marriage with Miss Georgia Madsen, born in 1888, in Oakland, Cal., the daughter of Robert K. Madsen. This union was blessed with four children: Yvonne; Robert; Virginia; and Richard. Mr. Berryhill is classed among the enterprising and worthy young ranchers of Fresno County, and he and his estimable wife are highly esteemed in their community. He is a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company.

NEWTON P. BYRD.—Newton P. Byrd is the youngest child of the late John H. Byrd, who died October 5, 1913, and whose widow still resides in Fresno. Newton P. was born on the old Byrd homestead in Clark's Valley, on November 5, 1894. He was raised on the Byrd ranch, attended the district school in Clark's Valley and was graduated from the Fresno High School in 1915.

In the same year, he was married to Miss Ernestine Naomi Belfils, a daughter of Dr. E. K. Belfils, a dentist with offices in the Union National Bank Building, Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Byrd have one child, Barbara Lee.

Mr. Byrd bought his ranch of twenty acres from J. D. Collins in 1915. He built a beautiful cement and stucco bungalow in 1917, where he and his family now reside.

Mr. Byrd is a member of the Native Sons of the Golden West Parlor in Fresno and he is a Mason, being a member of Fresno Lodge, F. and A. M.

LEWIS E. VAN RONK.—A busy and popular brick and cement contractor, as well as plasterer and manufacturer of cement building blocks in the enterprising city of Sanger, Fresno County, is Lewis E. Van Ronk, a native of Iowa, where he was born on July 10, 1865, a son of Theodore and Cynthia Van Ronk, who were natives of New York. They were the parents of six children, L. E. Van Ronk being the only member of the family to migrate to California, to which state he came in 1913.

In his younger days L. E. Van Ronk learned the trade of a brick mason and has followed the vocation ever since. His early education was received in the public schools of Iowa, from which State he migrated to Centralia, Wash., where he resided for twenty-five years.

While living in Washington, in the year 1888, L. E. Van Ronk was united in marriage with Miss Nancy Viola Watson, a native of Iowa, born on April 17, 1870, a daughter of Charles Watson. Mr. and Mrs. Van Ronk have been blessed with six children: Vera Maud the wife of M. Stanton of Centralia, Wash.; Lavern Edward, who manifested his patriotism by answering the call to the colors, and who served his country overseas over a year in the interest of universal Liberty, being attached to the Aviation Corps, No. 835; Virgil L.; Marie Geneva, who married P. M. Crosby, and is residing at Sanger; Frank L., another patriot who is serving his country in France; and Leta J., the youngest of the family.

Mr. L. E. Van Ronk is doing a large business in the making of cement building blocks for which purpose his factory is supplied with the proper facilities in the way of machinery and the various patterns for blocks suitable for the construction of homes. The success he has won is evident that he has the confidence of those with whom he has had business dealings. Aside from his home in Sanger, Mr. Van Ronk is the owner of a fine residence in Centralia, Wash.

WILLIAM JORDAN MOFFITT.—A thorough gentleman and an amiable and successful man of affairs, who is blessed with a wife of like business and social qualities, is William Jordan Moffitt, who was born at Spencer, in Tennessee, August 4, 1884. His father was Marion Moffitt, a native of Tennessee, who was a major in the Confederate Army, and afterward a farmer and a member of the legislature. He died in his native state. Mrs. Moffitt was Mollie F. Ammonette, also a native of Tennessee. She is still living, a widow now, Mrs. Macon, and resides with the subject of our review. By her first marriage she had two children, only one of whom, William, is now living. He was the elder of the two, and was brought up in Tennessee, attended the public schools, and afterward was a student at Burt College in that state. When nineteen, he entered the employ of the N. C. and St. L. Railroad and continued with them as a bill clerk until 1906, when he came to Fresno. Here he secured employment with Wells Fargo & Company, and helped the messenger on the run out from Fresno to San Francisco, and also to Los Angeles.

William Jordan Moffitt was married at Stockton on November 23, 1914, to Miss Myrtle Patterson, a native of Madera County and the daughter of W. S. Patterson, who had come to California as a young man and was a stock-raiser at Borden in that county. There he married Sarah F. Hope, whose father crossed the great plains from Missouri, and was one of the intrepid pioneers that helped to found this commonwealth. About 1904 Mr. Patterson located at Fresno, and later he had a stock ranch on Dry Creek. In time he improved a vineyard in the Wolter Colony. Both he and his wife died at Fresno. They had six children, of whom Mrs. Moffitt is the youngest. She was educated at Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Moffitt have two promising children, William Francis and Ralph Charles. Mrs. Moffitt is a member of the Presbyterian Church.

In 1915 Mr. Moffitt bought his twenty acres in the Wolter Colony, and having located here has been busy ever since making improvements. He has set out a fine vineyard of Thompson seedless grapes and has interset half of them with Calimyrna figs. He belongs to the California Peach Growers, Inc., and to the California Associated Raisin Company, and is among the first to cooperate in every good plan for the development of California husbandry on broad and permanent lines, and the extension of Fresno County's interests.

W. Y. DOUGLASS.—The noteworthy success achieved by W. Y. Douglass must be attributed to his persistence in the face of adverse circumstances and to the ability and character by which he has made his way to a place among the successful viticulturists of Fresno County. He is a native of the Lone Star State, having been born in Texas, on February 16, 1877, the son of Theodore C. and Emma C. Douglass, natives of Tennessee and Alabama respectively. They were the parents of the following children: John D. at Merced; W. Y.; Mrs. Mary Jackson near Reedley; Mrs. Viola Spears at Placerville; Charles and Emma, who are both deceased; Lottie teaching in Sanger; and Kate at home. The father, T. C. Douglass, migrated to California in 1885 and was the first man to purchase a forty-acre ranch in the St. Louis Colony, which he planted to vines and oranges and named the Sunny South Orchard. He passed away in 1915, his widow residing now at Sanger.

W. Y. Douglass remained at home until twenty-four years of age, worked on the ranch and in the meantime, for four years, he carried the mail from Centerville to Sanger. His first ranching enterprise was undertaken in 1899 when he leased the old St. Louis ranch and made his first stake. For two years, at an annual rental of \$400, by careful management he succeeded in making \$1,000, and at the expiration of his lease, he purchased his present place of forty acres, paying \$200 per acre. It is one of



Natalio Sempér

the oldest ranches in the County, having been set out over fifty years ago by Hyde and Jackson, the ranch being taken up originally as government land. On the ranch stands the original house, the lumber for which was brought around Cape Horn. Since purchasing the ranch, Mr. Douglass has improved the place by erecting buildings and otherwise beautifying the ranch, which he increased in size in 1914, by the addition of thirty acres, making his total seventy acres of valuable land. From two acres of Emperor grapes he received \$2,500 gross which serves to illustrate the profitability of his splendid ranch. That portion of his ranch which was set out to raise grapes, fifty years ago, yields three tons to the acre. Among the orange trees on his ranch are some that have been planted since 1890. There are two trees that were set out in the late sixties.

In 1909, W. Y. Douglass was united in marriage with Miss Mary Deitrich, a daughter of Fred Deitrich, and this union has been blessed by two children: Doris V., and Rosemary. Mr. Douglass was bereft of the companionship of his wife, and the children of a loving mother's care and devotion, on April 2, 1914. On January 20, 1919, Mr. Douglass married for his second wife Marie Raypholtz, born in Medford, Ore.

Fraternally, W. Y. Douglass is a member of the Sanger Lodge of Eagles, and he has voted the Democratic ticket at national elections and shown his interest in educational matters by serving as a school trustee of the Centerville School Districts.

NATALIO SEMPER.—An enterprising merchant and rancher, Natalio Semper was born at Yance, Navarra, Spain, on March 12, 1876, and when only seventeen years old landed at New York City, from which metropolis he came west to California in 1893. When he arrived here he was certainly face to face with stern reality; for he had only a few dollars in his pocket. He summoned his courage, came to Mendota, Fresno County, and started in to work for Miller & Lux, taking charge of a band of sheep. He received twenty dollars per month when working on the plains, and twenty-five when employed in the mountains. After one year he went to work for Celayeta & Yrigoyen, continuing with them and at the end of five years they paid him with a bunch of sheep and he then began in the sheep business for himself.

For fourteen years Mr. Semper ranged sheep all over Central and Northern California, walking thousands of miles and suffering many hardships and privations; and at times he owned as many as 7,000 sheep. Conditions were sometimes against him, however, and he sold wool as low as five cents a pound, and lambs as low as \$2.00 per head. But later he made good money in sheep, one deal alone netting him \$2,000 profit in five months. In 1903 he sold all his sheep and immediately made a trip to Eastern Oregon where he purchased a band of horses and drove them overland to Stockton, Cal. Looking about he found a purchaser in Marysville for the lot. He then bought a band of sheep and resumed the sheep business and wool-growing.

In 1909 Mr. Semper sold all his sheep and came to Huron, Fresno County, where he bought a half interest in a general merchandise store. His first partner was J. O. Wachter, but he bought him out later and in 1911 M. Claverie joined him in partnership. The name of the firm was then Semper & Claverie; but on June 15, 1917, Mr. Semper became sole owner of the business. In 1919 Mr. Semper again began raising sheep and is now ranging two bands of sheep of 2,000 head each, making his headquarters at his Fresno residence.

He is now interested in grain farming near Huron, and with I. R. Hain farms 1,000 acres to grain. He himself owns eighty acres of land, and eleven town lots at Huron. He also owns two houses in Fresno, and one in Stockton, and his wife and children reside in one of the Fresno houses, which home, at 2926 Inyo Street, he built in 1915. Besides, he is half owner in a grain warehouse at Huron. He is a stockholder in the Chinn-Gribel Com-

pany of Calexico, and this large corporation controls 100,000 acres of land fifty miles south of Mexicala in Lower California. Much of this richly-productive land is now being farmed to grain, with all modern machinery, including caterpillar engines and other notable contrivances and inventions. This venture in itself promises to make the stockholder a rich man. At any rate, it commands Mr. Semper's confidence and admiration, and he is one of the most enthusiastic boosters of the project.

While at Stockton, on December 20, 1906, Mr. Semper was married to Miss Telesfara Barcenilla, a native daughter of far-off Spain, who came to San Francisco in 1903, and by her he has had seven children, of which the parents are justly proud. Juanita; Guadalupe; Alfonso; Martin; Felisa; Miguel; and Ethel. Each of these children are receiving every educational advantage. Mr. Semper believes in protection for Americans, and is a Republican. He is one of the original stockholders of the Growers National Bank of Fresno. In 1900 he made a trip back to his old home where he visited relatives and friends, but after a five-months' visit he returned to his California home, more pleased than ever that he had cast in his lot in the Golden State.

PETER MATHISON.—A life replete with interest, in which scenes from widely distant parts of the globe have been photographed on memory's screen, has been the lot of Peter Mathison, pioneer of the Parlier section of Fresno County, where he has resided for the past twenty-six years, coming to this section when the country was planted to vast fields of waving grain. He is the son of Mathias Davidson, a Norwegian farmer and stockman, and Johanna (Johnson) Davidson. His parents were born, married, lived and died in their native country, both living to be past ninety years of age before their demise.

Peter Mathison, the son of Mathias, was born in the Land of the Midnight Sun at Rans Fjorden, Hamnes, Norway, March 18, 1852, and was one of a family of eleven children composed of six girls and five boys, of whom two sisters and one brother still live in Norway, three sisters and two brothers are dead, and the remaining children are in America.

Peter was educated in the common schools of Norway, and as a young man cared for his father's farm and cattle for seven summers. He spent five winters in the vicinity of Lofoden, in company with five young men engaged in the cod-fishing industry. During these five winters in the West Fjorden, in the icy arctic waters in the North Atlantic, these young men talked and dreamed about America and resolved to come to the United States. Peter bade farewell to the land of his birth and sailed from Throndhjem, via England, for the distant shores of America, in 1876, landing in July of that year at Castle Garden, New York. Like many others of his countrymen, he first tried his fortune in the New World in Wisconsin, where he worked on a farm, going thence to the Red River Valley of the Territory of Dakota, now North Dakota, in 1877, where he took up a homestead in Richland County, twenty miles due south of Fargo. He proved up on his homestead and engaged in raising wheat, temporarily returning to Wisconsin to claim a bride. He was married at Brookville, St. Croix County, Wis., in 1883, and in 1891 came with his wife and two children from Dakota to California, settling in Fresno County, where he bought forty acres in the same section where he is now living. He improved his land, and in 1900, when the Alaska gold fever was at its height, in company with nine other young men of adventurous spirit, he tried his fortune in the Alaska goldfields.

The party, composed of the two Lindgrens, the two Sunesons, the two Petersons, the two Johnsons and young Hanistrom and Peter Mathison, spent the summer of 1900 at Nome, meeting with only fair success in their

quest of the golden metal. Mr. Mathison, who had previously prospected on the Mojave Desert and in the Sierra Mountains, returned to Fresno County in the fall of 1900, and since that time has devoted his time to farming and improving his ranch. He had the misfortune to lose his wife in 1902. She had borne him four children: Joseph C., who was in Washington State getting out lumber for American airships, came home Christmas, 1918; O. M., also in the army, trained at Camp Kearney in the United States Engineer Corps, is now with the Army of Occupation in Germany; David, a rancher at Turlock; and Ruth, who died in California at the age of ten.

Mr. Mathison married a second time in 1907, uniting with Miss Edith Erickson, a native of Trollhaetten, Westre Jottland, Sweden, the only living member of a family of four children. She came to America at the age of seventeen and worked as a domestic for thirteen years in Brooklyn and New York City, from thence coming to Fresno County. Three children were born of this union: Henry, Hazel, and Eunice.

Mr. and Mrs. Mathison are active workers in the Swedish Mission Church, situated one-half mile south of their home. Mr. Mathison helped build the church and served on its board of trustees. Since his sons enlisted in the army Mr. Mathison has deemed it best to dispose of a portion of his land, retaining only ten acres, well improved and planted to prunes, Thompson seedless grapes, and apricots. In politics he is a Republican; he is sturdy, fearless, and progressive.

IRA LEE BUTLER.—Foremost among the successful superintendents of large vineyards and orchards in the Kerman district, a man who has proved his ability to manage men and has demonstrated his fidelity to duty and loyalty of service while in the employ of others, is Ira Lee Butler, the efficient superintendent of the Empire Ranch of 320 acres, including an extensive vineyard. Ira L. Butler was born at Fairfield, Wayne County, Ill., October 17, 1886, a son of W. M. and Charlotte (McDuffee) Butler, both of whom were natives of Illinois. Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Butler were the parents of eight children, six of whom are living, Ira L. being the second child. He was reared in his native state until 1906, when he accompanied his parents to the vicinity of Dinuba, Tulare County, Cal., where the father engaged in viticulture and still makes his home.

After coming to California, Ira L. assisted his father on the home ranch for two years, then he was employed by F. H. Wilson, the nurseryman, whose place of business was located in Fresno, where he remained for two years. Afterwards he was made superintendent of the nursery at Parlier, where he remained until the nursery was sold and then, for two years, continued with the new owner, until the place was sold again. In February, 1917, Mr. Butler accepted the responsible position of superintendent of the Empire Ranch, one of the most important vineyards and orchards in the Kerman district. The vineyard comprises 250 acres, eighty of which are in Thompson seedless, eighty in sultanas, sixty acres are devoted to muscats, and thirty acres are given to raising feherzagos grapes. In addition to this large vineyard, forty acres are planted to figs and twenty to apricots.

Mr. Butler is well posted in the science of horticulture and viticulture, is a very industrious and enterprising business man and applies himself very closely to the multitudinous details connected with the successful operation of a large ranch. During the busy season there are sixty-five men employed on the Empire Ranch and at other periods the average is about ten. He is highly esteemed in the community for his excellent business qualifications and integrity of character.

Ira L. Butler was united in marriage with Miss Laura Sons, a native of Illinois, the ceremony being solemnized at Fairfield, Wayne County, Ill., in 1907, and to them have come two children: Agnes and Harold.

ERNEST T. S. HANSEN.—Success seems to come naturally to some men; whether it is through intuitive knowledge or through knowledge gained by close application, certain it is that success follows close upon their efforts. There is perhaps no better illustration of this than in the case of Ernest T. S. Hansen, who was born in Denmark, August 21, 1884, the son of A. C. Hansen, whose biography will be found elsewhere in this book.

Ernest Hansen lived in Copenhagen until he was five years of age, and came to Fresno County in the spring of 1890. Here he completed the course of the public schools, and took up work in the Fresno High School.

Mr. Hansen then returned to the farm and assisted his father until 1905, when he began farming for himself. He bought his present ranch, on Clinton Avenue, then consisting of thirty acres; he has improved the land and rebuilt the buildings. He has since added twenty acres adjoining; he has now twenty acres in Thompson seedless and the balance in orchards and alfalfa. Mr. Hansen is an expert viticulturist and has put his knowledge into practice on his ranch, so that it is in a high state of development.

Mr. Hansen was married on September 22, 1909, in Fresno, to Miss Iva Maxwell, a native of Missouri. They have two children, Theodore Rudolph and Elvin Styrman. Mr. Hansen has always been interested in educational matters, and was chosen trustee of Empire school district, at one time being clerk of the board. He is now chairman of the board of directors of the Kerman Union High School. In 1917 he served as a member of the grand jury. He is a member of the Danish Lutheran Church, and of the Danish Brotherhood in Fresno. In politics he is a Progressive Republican, and progressive in everything else he undertakes. He is a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company, and in the California Peach Growers, Inc. At one time he served as chairman of the local board of the California Farmers Union, the parent cooperative organization of the farmers of the county.

By his well-directed activities Mr. Hansen has become a vital part of the community in which he lives, and his material prosperity reflects creditably upon himself and his environment.

JOHN MANEELY.—Another successful ranchman who is engaged in developing the country around Barstow is John, familiarly known as "Jack" Maneely, who arrived in San Francisco the day that President McKinley was buried, and a year after his brother, Alexander Maneely, whose interesting life story is given elsewhere in this work, also came here. He was born in Dumfries, Ont., on June 19, 1870, the son of John Maneely, who came from County Cavan in Ireland, and came out to Canada when he was about thirty years old. In Ontario the father married Catherine Johnston, also of Irish birth, and there he followed his useful trade of a weaver. He became the father of six children, and died in Canada. After his demise, Mrs. Maneely went to live in Manitoba, where she now resides.

Favored with the usual schooling of the average American boy, John grew up to come west to Montana when he was of age, where he began railroad work as a fireman. He engaged with the Northern Pacific and continued with that company for about four years, when he went to the neighborhood of Richville, Wash., where he bought railroad land and improved it so that he could follow farming.

Next he went to the Philippine Islands, during the Philippine War, where he was in the employ of the United States government as a teamster, spending about two years in traveling throughout Luzon, and for two years he was with a troop of the First Cavalry, and then he returned to San Francisco, and came on to Los Angeles. Bridge work on the Southern Pacific next engaged him, and then he entered the service of the Fresno Traction Company.



Mary E. Everdell Wm. Everdell

In 1904, with his brother Alexander, he bought 100 acres on the San Joaquin River opposite Barstow, located there, and set out a vineyard and orchard, and planted alfalfa. About 1910, however, he sold his interest to his brother and then came to Fresno, where he entered the employ of the Associated Oil Company, and for five years worked under Calvin Hill. Next he went with the ice company at Coalinga, for a year. After that he came to Barstow, and has since been busy with horticultural pursuits, making one of the really attractive show-places, and producing some of the best fruit sent from any Fresno County farm.

While in Los Angeles, Mr. Maneely was married to Mrs. Gertrude Kelly Emery, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this work. While enjoying his delightful home at Barstow, Mr. Maneely is still engaged in breaking into new paths in the science of farming. He is a member of the Red Men, and belongs to the Fresno Lodge, No. 244; and he is quite as popular in the Fraternal Brotherhood.

WILLIAM EVERSOLL.—The oldest resident in Burroughs Valley, Fresno County, is William Eversoll, born near Boonesboro, Boone County, Iowa, on November 9, 1855. His father, Moses Eversoll, a native of Ohio, came to Illinois, where he married Abigail Pike, and then moved to Iowa, where Mrs. Eversoll died in 1860, on their farm in Boone County. Of their union there were five children, four of whom are living, William being the youngest. Moses Eversoll married a second time and of the three children born of this marriage there is only one living. Moses Eversoll passed away in Iowa, in 1893, having lived forty years on one farm.

William learned the rudiments of farming from the time he was a small boy, having early been set to work on the farm. However, his schooling was not neglected, for he received a good education in the schools of his district. When twenty-one he leased the home farm and about the same time was married, in 1876, to Miss Mary E. Carroll, born in Decatur County, Iowa, in 1855. In 1883 William Eversoll moved to Washington County, Ark., remaining about eighteen months and in July, 1884, came to Fresno County, Cal., with his wife and two children, and the same fall located in Burroughs Valley, where he rented land and raised grain, and since then has leased different tracts in the valley, until he has plowed almost all of the land in the valley; on much of it he turned the soil for the first time.

In 1886 Mr. Eversoll located his present place, a preemption claim, and made the improvements, obtained title to it and built his residence, and here he has resided ever since. He raised cattle and horses and has prospered, purchasing land adjoining until he owns 760 acres, a fine estate. For many years he raised draft horses and mules, and he owns a pure-bred Kentucky Jack and a fine Percheron stallion, and has raised some fine horses and mules. In the early days he found Tollhouse was the best market for hay and he also hauled hay to the lumber mills in the Sierras, returning loaded with lumber; thus he followed teaming for many years until he had his ranch and stock-raising required all his time. While teaming he had many interesting and exciting experiences.

Mr. Eversoll was bereft of his faithful wife on September 20, 1917, at sixty-two years of age. She was a devoted wife and mother, and a devout Methodist; she left him three children: Minerva, who is Mrs. Shuler of Fresno, and who has three children—Velma, Billy and Elizabeth; Glenn H., who married Daisy Mitchell, a Normal graduate engaged in teaching school while he is ranching with his father, and they have one child, Florence; and Edith, who was born in California and who is the wife of W. B. Welden, a rancher in Burroughs Valley, and has one child, Walter.

For many years Mr. Eversoll served as a trustee of Mountain View school district, much of the time as clerk of the board. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodman of the World, at Tollhouse.

CARL AUGUST NELSON.—A hard-working old-timer in Fresno County, who has been very active, and successfully so, in its development, and who is therefore much interested in the preservation of its annals, is Carl August Nelson, a liberal-minded and kindhearted gentleman. He came to California in 1889, and was fortunate in locating in Fresno County two years later. He was born in Calmar Laen, Smaland, Sweden, on February 20, 1865, the son of Victor Nelson, a farmer who is retired there. His wife, Johanna, died at that place, the mother of eight children, five of whom are living. Carl is the oldest, and he was brought up on a farm and educated in the public schools.

Mr. Nelson took up viticulture and became foreman of a nursery and vineyard. In December, 1889, he came to Tulare County, Cal., and worked on a ranch and in saw-mills. About that time he was swindled out of \$1,150 by a landshark. After two years he came to Fresno and for a year and a half worked at horticulture and viticulture. Next he worked in the Scandinavian Colony, and afterward leased a vineyard of forty acres, which he ran for five years. He then purchased ten acres on Belmont Avenue, nine of which he set out to vines, and one to apricots; by skilful management he was able to pay for it, and also made a trade for ten acres adjoining. He then had twenty acres in vines and orchards, which he built upon and improved. He later sold the ten acres adjoining and bought twenty on the north side of the home place; when he had thirty acres in orchards and vines. He continued on the place twelve years, but in 1910 sold out on account of ill-health.

Thinking he would make a change, Mr. Nelson traveled through every county north of Fresno, but he did not find anything better. He therefore returned and bought forty acres near the old home on Olive and Pierce. It was raw land, but he improved it; put up a good residence and other farm-buildings, and set out an orchard of apricots, peaches, and some vines. After he had improved it, he sold twenty acres at a good profit, and kept the twenty acres on Pierce Avenue, which was all orchard. He has a fine pumping-plant with a large flow, and this adds to the attractiveness and value of his ranch property. Mr. Nelson also owns good property in Stockton. He is a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and was a member and stockholder of the old raisin association. He was also one of the first members of the Scandinavian Fire Insurance Company.

At Fresno, Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Hilma Carolina Swenson, a native of Skaane, Sweden. When eight years old she came with a sister to Illinois, and in 1899 made her way to California. They have four sons: Carl Hilmar Clarence, who assists his father; and Arthur Conrad, Harry August, and Melvin Amendus, who are at home. They all attend the Swedish Mission Church in Fresno, where Mr. Nelson is a deacon and was once a trustee. In national politics he is a Republican, and a strong advocate of temperance.

STEVE TUCKER.—The "universal car" of motordom is ably represented in Kingsburg by Steve Tucker, the enterprising proprietor of the Ford Automobile Agency. In up-to-date methods of selling Ford automobiles and in a comprehensive knowledge of their construction and operation, Mr. Tucker is regarded as one of the leading agents of California. His business is conducted in a dignified and conservative way, the Ford way, which is not only conducive to the making of new patrons, but the retaining of old friends.

Steve Tucker was born at Greeley, Kans., on September 29, 1880. His parents are Henry and Jennie (Boen) Tucker, formerly farmers of Linn County, Kans., but now residents of Selma, Fresno County, Cal. Steve Tucker attended the grammar school at Parker, Kans., where he was reared. After finishing his school days he was employed as a clerk in a general store at Parker. At the age of twenty-two he engaged in the grocery business at

Parker and continued there for six years. Afterwards, for a period of a year, he was located at St. Louis, and from there he moved to Denver where he and his brother, Fred, operated a grocery. Later Steve Tucker was employed as the city salesman for a wholesale coffee and tea house. His next move was to South Canon, Colo., where he became the manager of a coal mine and the company's store; also serving as postmaster and the clerk of the mine. After remaining there two years he migrated to the Golden State and settled at Selma, Cal., in 1914, where for two years he was employed by his brother, Fred, in the Ford automobile agency.

In 1917, C. J. Stone erected a spacious and beautiful building, at Kingsburg, which was planned and designed by Mr. Tucker for an automobile show-room, machine shop and garage. Mr. Tucker has leased this well arranged room for a term of five years. In addition, he has an excellently equipped machine shop and carries a large line of Ford accessories. He has been very successful in selling these popular autos, his annual sales totaling 144 machines. His territory includes forty-seven square miles, about seven miles each way from Kingsburg. The Ford agency is a credit to the city of Kingsburg.

Steve Tucker was united in marriage with Miss Frances Peebles, of Eureka, Kans., and the ceremony was solemnized at Kiowa, that state, on December 10, 1912. They have one child, Dorris M. Mrs. Tucker is a member of the Christian Church. Their new bungalow home in Kingsburg has just been completed.

CHRIS JORGENSEN, JR.—A young man who is now reaping the reward for his early application to general farming and in particular to viticulture, is Chris Jorgensen, Jr., the son of the supervisor who is also represented in this work. He has a valuable little ranch where he is experimenting and developing in such a manner as to enlarge both his estate and his experience, and where, while satisfying himself, he is pointing the way to those who, as well-wishing competitors, watch with interest the outcome of his energetic efforts. A native Californian, proud of his association with the great Pacific commonwealth, Mr. Jorgensen was born at West Park, in Fresno County, on August 20, 1887, the son of a well-known early settler, and on his father's well-kept farm he grew up. He attended the public schools, and then he went to the Fresno Business College, from which he entered Grand View College at Des Moines, Iowa. During the thirteen months that he spent in that state, he also worked with a contractor and builder, and so mastered some of the important practical problems of daily work. On his return, he assisted his father as a rancher and viticulturist.

In 1912, Mr. Jorgensen bought his present place of forty acres three miles west of Fresno, at the corner of Whites Bridge Road and Braly Avenue, and soon after began to set out a vineyard and an orchard. Now he has three acres of peaches, while the balance of the acreage is given up to muscat, Sultana and Thompson seedless grapes.

In Fresno, Mr. Jorgensen was married to Miss Daisy Jepson, a native of South Dakota, whose father was Chris Jepson, who was born in Denmark, but who migrated to the United States and for a while resided in the Middle West, later coming out to Dakota, and now living at Del Rey where he is a successful horticulturist. Mr. and Mrs. Jorgensen have two children: Harriett and Kenneth.

Independent in politics, although inclined to Democratic principles, Mr. Jorgensen is active in all that would promote the best interests of the locality. He is a live member and stockholder in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. He is a public-spirited citizen, whose own success is calculated to advance the interests of the community.

ROSS B. LOWTHER.—Success doesn't always need to wait until a man is well up in years before it comes to him, young men sometimes go out and meet it, and are enabled to enjoy many days of comfortable circumstances. This has been the case with R. B. Lowther, who has achieved success by an intelligent use of the energy and industry with which he was endowed at birth. He was born in West Virginia, February 26, 1886, and came to California when in his seventh year. His father, W. W. Lowther, is a painter in Fresno; his mother, who was Josephine (Freeman) Williams, is living and is sixty-six years old. This is her second marriage, and she had one son by her first, Starr B. Williams, a rancher on Jensen Avenue. By this second marriage there are two sons, twins, Lee B. and Ross B. Lowther.

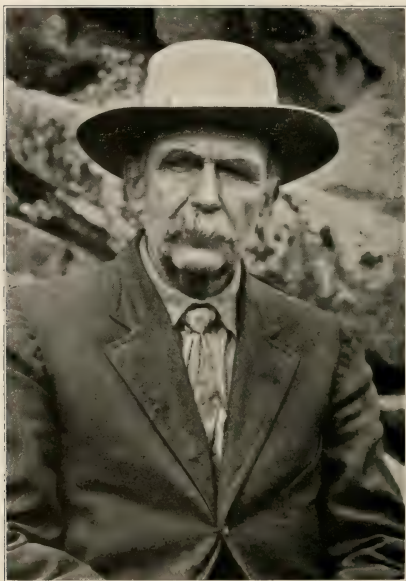
When the family came to California they settled near Trimmer Springs, Fresno County. Here R. B. grew up, running stock and other labor for wages. He went to the Lone Star District four years ago and in company with his half brother, Starr Williams, bought a twenty-acre vineyard. After working together for a year, Lowther sold his interest to his relative, and bought the twenty-five acres where he now lives. The same care and attention that he gave to his work in his earlier days, he has given to his ranch, and his neat and comfortable home and surroundings are the result. He had to go into debt when he made his purchase of this land, but by judicious management he has succeeded. His real work began in the foothill country of Fresno County, where he worked on ranches. Owing to his carefulness and frugality he was enabled to have a small herd of cattle for his own, and these he tended carefully and gained a start for his subsequent activities.

He was married at Malaga to Miss Maude Mercer, daughter of W. H. Mercer, of Fresno County. Mrs. Lowther has proven a happy choice for her husband, and much of the success that has come to him is due to his excellent wife.

OTTO ANDERSON.—A comparative newcomer in Fresno County, but one who is gifted with the enterprise for hard work and has amply demonstrated a high order of business ability, and whose home is a center of interest in educational and religious work, is Otto Anderson, who has half a hundred or more acres on Grant Avenue, two miles north of Kingsburg, where he is assisted by his two sons. Born in Sweden, in the centennial year of the United States, and growing up in that northern land, he came to America at the beginning of the present century. He was reared a farmer, and crossed a wide ocean and continent to enter California, the most promising of all farming lands.

His father, a farmer before him, was Andrew Peter Olafson, who had married Margaret Anderson; and they had eleven children, ten of whom are still living. Five of these are particularly fortunate in being in California, although the other five are also happily situated in Sweden. Otto attended the usual public schools and at fourteen was confirmed in the Lutheran Church. For a year he was employed in the wood and coal business at Gottenburg, but for the most part he was busy farming, learning those A B C's of agriculture applicable the world over. However, he decided to bid goodbye to his native land, and in March, 1900, he sailed from Gottenburg.

Crossing the Atlantic to New York, Mr. Anderson stopped awhile in New Hampshire and in Connecticut, where he found plenty of work in machine shops; but he longed for a more out-door activity, and so turned his face westward to California. Once in the Golden State, he was not long in finding Kingsburg and choosing it as essentially promising, taking up his residence here in 1904; and on the first of August, four years later, he was married to Mrs. Satterburg, widow of Gust A. Satterburg, who was originally Alma Josephine Olson, a native of Sweden and daughter of Olaus Olson who died when she was ten years old. His wife was Beata Olson before her marriage; and she was the mother of eleven children. In 1908



R. M. Johnson

she came to America, and she died at the home of the subject of this sketch, in 1911, in her seventy-third year. Mrs. Anderson had five children by her first marriage, the eldest of which is Lilly, a graduate of the Selma High School, class of 1916, and now a graduate of the Fresno Normal and a teacher at the Ross School, in Fresno County; while next are Arthur and Milton, who help run the ranch; and Elvera and Walter, who are at school. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson have one child, Stanley.

During the years intervening between 1905 and 1908, Mr. Anderson improved a twenty-acre ranch and, after bringing it to a fine state of cultivation, sold it at a profit. Later he acquired another twenty acres, an alfalfa ranch, in Tulare County; and this property he still owns. The nucleus of their present home place on Grant Avenue was a tract of thirty-two acres owned by Mrs. Anderson, and to that he added ten acres already planted and, finally, another ten in the neighborhood, so that now they have fifty-two acres, irrigated by means of two wells, two pumping plants and the service of the Consolidated Ditch. He enlarged and remodelled the dwelling, and now he has a comfortable residence, with a beautiful lawn, a garden of flowers, trees and shrubbery. He built a tank-house, and also a good barn; and he has a full complement of horses and farm machinery, together with a touring car.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are active members of the Swedish Baptist Church at Kingsburg, and their children also belong and attend the Sunday School. When Mrs. Anderson joined, there were only five families and thirteen members, and now there are over 350 members, and the congregation is preparing to build a dignified edifice. When the history of Kingsburg shall be written in fullness and detail, the family name of Anderson will find an honorable place. Mr. Anderson's parents have recently come from Sweden, and they are pleasantly situated on a near-by ranch of ten acres, devoted to fruit and raisin culture.

ROBERT M. JOHNSON.—A stockman operating with headquarters at Tollhouse, as well as at the Johnson ranch in the Pine Ridge district, is Robert M. Johnson, known as "Cousin Bob." By helpfulness to others he has endeared himself to all with whom he comes in contact and they call him by this familiar name.

In a great bend of the Missouri River, which takes up the greatest portion of Saline County, lies some of the richest land in the state of Missouri, and on a farm near Marshall, the county seat, is where Robert M. Johnson first saw the light of day, on January 29, 1848, and here he was reared until he was eleven years of age, when he removed with his parents to Knobnoster, Johnson County, in the same state, where his father, James R. Johnson, was a merchant, afterwards removing to Bates County, Mo., and then later to Gainesville, Texas, where he died. The mother of Robert was in maidenhood Martha Yancey, born in Albemarle County, Va., a sister of the late Charles A. Yancey of Tollhouse, Fresno County; the mother passed away in Saline County, Mo., in 1855, when Robert was only seven years of age. The youngest of her three children, he went to school at Knobnoster. Soon after moving to Bates County, he began farming on his own account, continuing until about 1876, when he removed to Gainesville, Texas, where he farmed till 1884. His uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Abe Yancey, lived at Tollhouse, so he came here in 1884, and for some years assisted them on their ranch, as well as at the Tollhouse Hotel.

At Tollhouse, Mr. Johnson drifted into the stock business and his herd of cattle growing, he established his brand, a capital P with a quarter circle under it. About twenty-five years ago, with the Yanceys, he purchased a part of what is now the Johnson ranch, lying in the foothills of the Sierras, above the Tollhouse, and here they have prospered, raising cattle and adding to their purchase until now they have 1,000 acres of land in the Pine Ridge

district. Here have been erected a residence and suitable farm buildings, with water piped from springs for both irrigation and domestic use. A full-bearing orchard with choice varieties of apples is very much in evidence. The Johnson ranch is watered by both Taylor and Flintlock creeks, besides numerous springs, yielding an abundance of water for the cattle, the ranch also being well wooded with pine, cedar, fir and oak, making it an ideal stock-ranch.

Cousin Bob is very interesting and companionable and makes those who visit the Johnson ranch feel at home. The writer well remembers the genial and frank invitation and his earnest insistence. Fortunate is he who enjoys the hospitality of the Johnson home. He is a great lover of children, always finding time to do something for them. He is honest and straightforward and his word is as good as his bond. Mr. Johnson is a member of the California Cattle Growers Association and is also a member of the Y. M. C. A. and the American National Red Cross.

A. R. HILTON.—Pioneers of Fresno, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Hilton reside at 1544 N Street, where they are enjoying the fruits of a well-spent life. Mr. Hilton was born at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, April 19, 1852, descended from a very early English family who settled in Nova Scotia. His father, Frederick Hammond Hilton, was also born in Nova Scotia, where the paternal grandfather, Thomas Hilton, ran a tannery and boot and shoe manufacturing establishment at Yarmouth, being among the first, if not the first, leather and boot and shoe manufacturers in Nova Scotia. Thomas Hilton was born in England at or near Liverpool, where the Hiltons had been tanners and leather workers for generations.

Thomas Hilton married in England and brought his family to Nova Scotia in the early days. He was twice married, but had no children by his second wife, although raised a large family by his first wife. Frederick Hammond Hilton was the oldest son and succeeded to his father's business. He married in Nova Scotia, Miss Mary Hilton. During the gold excitement he came across the Isthmus in 1852, and mined at Georgetown, and in other gold-mining districts. He went back to Nova Scotia in 1856, and in 1868 returned to California, accompanied by A. R. Hilton in 1868. They crossed the Isthmus, arriving at San Francisco May 1, 1868. They went on up to Centerville, Alameda County, where the father opened up a boot and shoe shop. The mother and the rest of the children joined the father and our subject about six months later. A. R. Hilton attended the public schools at Yarmouth, Nova Scotia; was brought up in the Congregational Church, and shortly after coming to California, he was apprenticed to Walton and Faulkner at Centerville, and learned the blacksmith trade and horseshoeing, serving an apprenticeship of two and a half years, when he bought out a blacksmith shop in Centerville, ran it three years, then, as a journeyman blacksmith, worked in San Francisco, Oakland, Bakersfield and Pittsburg (then known as New York Landing) in Contra Costa County, where he met and married his wife. She was Miss Alice Rebecca Whitney, daughter of William E. and Sophia A. (Fales) Whitney—their marriage taking place August 11, 1877, at New York Landing. William E. Whitney was born at Thomaston, Maine, where he was also married and there Mrs. Hilton was born and lived till she was eleven years of age, attending the public schools. Mr. Whitney came to California in 1849 and dug gold near the Nevada line, went back to Maine and returned again to California. His family joined him in California on Thanksgiving Day, 1868, sailing via Panama. Mrs. Hilton grew up at New York Landing, now Pittsburg, and attended Mill's Seminary. Mr. Whitney followed railroad building at Pittsburg and farmed 300 acres. He built the first limekiln in Santa Cruz; built the Black Diamond Railway, put in a great deal of piling and built many of the piers and wharves about the bay; became an extensive contractor in building culverts and bridges for the Southern Pacific Railway and became well-to-do. He died at New York Landing more than thirty

years ago. His wife outlived him and died at the home of Mrs. Hilton in April, 1894, seventy-two years old.

The Whitneys had four children who grew up: William J., well known in Contra Costa County. He died at Pittsburg several years ago; Frank, died in Contra Costa County; Mary A., is the wife of George South, farmer, at Pittsburg; and Alice Rebecca. Four of the Whitney children died before reaching maturity.

Mrs. Hilton's mother, Sophia A. Fales, was born in Thomaston, Maine, was a very intellectual person; was a school teacher in Maine. Her family were merchants and sea-faring men. The Fales were of English and Scotch origin, and the progenitors had settled in Maine before the Revolution.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Hilton went to Kernville, Kern County, where he bought a partnership in a blacksmith shop, which he ran three years, thence went to Bodie, Mono County, and worked in blacksmith shop connected with a gold mine one year and then ran a blacksmith shop of his own about nine years, then Mr. Hilton came to Fresno, November 29, 1888; bought two lots on N Street across the road from the old Church Mill. He built a shop and conducted a general blacksmithing business and gained wide recognition as the manufacturer of the Hilton Wagon. He made and sold thousands of the Hilton Wagons, locally. He also manufactured buggies and light road wagons, but his principal work was the making of wagons for freighting in the mountains and in the valley, wagons, from for two horses to sixteen horses. He remained actively in business until 1904 when he was taken seriously ill and underwent an operation.

They have lived at 1544 N Street since April, 1894. Mr. and Mrs. Hilton have two living children: Mary Sophia, wife of W. H. Davis, a raisin grower at Round Mountain, Fresno County, and they have eight children: Frederick Hilton; Mary June; Alice Adelia; Elizabeth Ann; Walton Leslie; Shirley Jane; Chester Byron; Earla May; and Leslie Allen, manager of the United States Rubber Company in San Diego. He married Miss Ethel Vandercreek, formerly of Fresno, and they have one child: Bettie Jane.

Mr. and Mrs. Hilton have watched Fresno grow with great interest. Mrs. Hilton and the children are members of the Christian Church. Mr. Hilton is an Odd Fellow; is a naturalized American citizen, and in political matters is a Republican.

C. EDWARD FOSBERG.—An able and influential member of the board of city trustees of Kingsburg, is C. Edward Fosberg, the retired merchant, whose business judgment is often sought. He was born at Jönköping, Sweden, the "Chico" of that country, where the safety match originated and is still extensively manufactured. He is a son of Carl and Inga (Anderson) Fosberg. The father was a foreman for a spool factory, and he lived and died in Sweden, passing away in his seventieth year. The mother once came to America on a visit, to see her sons in Texas; and returning to Sweden, died there.

Five children were born to this worthy couple, one of whom, Esther, died single in Texas. Carl Edward, the subject of our sketch, was the eldest, and the next was Annie, who married Ernest Johnson, a railroad man in the employ of the Swedish government, and who now resides in Sweden. Victor, the husband of Annie Lund, a native of Ohio, is a cotton-planter in Texas; while Emil, still single, is a stockman in the Pan-Handle country, now serving in the United States Army on the Mexican border.

Born on February 3, 1867, Carl Edward was educated in Sweden, where he received a good elementary training, followed by courses in business college. When eighteen, however, he left home and his native land, and set sail for Boston, where he arrived on May 1, 1885. Soon afterward, he went on to the Gulf Coast in Texas. For the first few years he worked by the month on stock-ranches around Austin. He then went to Georgetown, Texas, where he clerked for four years, after which he bought into a grocery busi-

ness; and off and on he sold and bought and ran other general merchandise concerns. Next he became general ticket agent for the Atlantic and Gulf Steamship Company, and as such he did a large business, having an extensive and loyal acquaintance. He prospered and saved up some money. Altogether he was in Texas twenty-one years, and while there his brothers joined him, coming from Sweden at a later date. His mother also came to visit him, as has been narrated. And in Texas, in 1890, he was married to Miss Annie Anderson, a native of Sweden, who had grown up in the Lone Star State.

In 1910, Mr. Fosberg came to California, and after a year in business in Pasadena, as a stockholder in the Model Grocery, came on to Kingsburg and immediately proceeded to conduct the business for which he had already contracted. The firm had been known as Carlson & Broline, and it then became Broline & Fosberg. That partnership continued until January 1, 1918, when Mr. Fosberg sold out to F. O. Roosman.

In high favor among all who know him as a neighbor, and a wide-awake man of affairs, Mr. Fosberg has twice been elected to the city board of trustees, and he is still serving in that capacity. He is a member of the Swedish Methodist Church in Kingsburg, and of the Odd Fellows, having affiliated himself with the Crown City Lodge at Pasadena. His two children are married and are also prosperous: Maimie Mary is the wife of G. E. Andrews, manager of the California Peach Growers, Inc., at Kingsburg; and Annie Laura is the wife of Ralph Scott, of Fresno.

WILLIAM ALLISON GREER.—A responsible position with the Associated Oil Company, at Coalinga, Cal., is filled by W. A. Greer, the efficient superintendent, who, in length of service, is one of the oldest superintendents in the Coalinga oil field. "Al" Greer, as he is familiarly called, is an exceptionally well posted oilman and has large responsibilities, which he discharges in a manner satisfactory to the company. Pennsylvania is his native commonwealth and Florence, Washington County, was his birthplace, and there he first saw the light of day on January 26, 1875. He is a son of Joseph A. Greer, a native of the same place, who moved to the Bradford oil-field, McKean County, where he was an oil-operator until his death.

W. A. Greer attended the public school at Bradford, and from a boy of eleven years he assisted his father in the oil-fields until he was of age. In January, 1900, he came to Coalinga, Cal., where he secured employment with the Whale 8 Oil Company, remaining there six months, when he left for Bakersfield, and for a short time was located on the West Side, in the McKittrick field. Later on he went to the Cholame Valley, San Luis Obispo County, where he assisted in putting down a wild-cat well, returning to Coalinga eight months later where he has resided ever since. Mr. Greer was the driller of the first and second wells for the El Capitan. He next drilled for the No. 28 Oil Company, and for the Oil City Petroleum Company, the two latter being under the same management. He was interested in and employed by the Montana Oil Company and also by the Arlene Company. In April, 1906, W. A. Greer entered the employ of the Associated Oil Company as a driller on National 30. It was in 1908, that Mr. Greer became superintendent of the Coalinga division for the company, and since then both the production and development of this division are under his able management. That his services have greatly aided in the development of the company's business, is attested by the fact of his holding this responsible post for eleven years.

Mr. Greer was united in marriage with Miss Ethel McFee, a native of Los Angeles, the ceremony being solemnized at Bakersfield, on December 8, 1909. They have two children, Elinor and Pauline. Mrs. Greer's father, William J. McFee, was born near St. John, N. B., where he followed railroading. In the early seventies he came to California and for more than thirty years was agent for the Southern Pacific Railroad, until he was retired on a pen-



W. Allen.

sion. He spent his last days in Coalinga, passing to the Great Beyond in 1908. His wife was Margaret Price, born in Fredericton, N. B., and at her death, in 1906, she left six children, Mrs. Greer being the youngest.

Fraternally, Mr. Greer was made a Mason in Welcome Lodge, No. 225, F. & A. M., at Lemoore, and is also a member of Coalinga Chapter, No. 114, R. A. M., Hanford Commandery K. T., and Los Angeles Consistory, Scottish Rite, and, with his wife is a member of Eschscholtzia Chapter No. 276, O. E. S., at Coalinga, of which Mrs. Greer is Past Matron. He is also a member of the Coalinga Lodge of Odd Fellows. He was active in the Coalinga, district in the various bond and war fund drives, and is a member of the Growlers Club.

CHARLES E. BARNUM.—Distinguished among those whose integrity, experience and enterprise have contributed much to advance the permanent interests of Fresno and its neighboring districts, is Charles E. Barnum, county auditor and a Native Son of the Golden West, proud indeed of the development of the great commonwealth where he first saw the light of day. His father, Horace E. Barnum, now deceased, (whose life story is given elsewhere in this historical work), farmed for a while on coming to the Coast; but moving to Fresno, he was elected county auditor and held that office, with signal ability and unusual distinction, for twenty years, relinquishing the responsibility only at his death on June 15, 1914. His mother, who was Mary E. Deering before her marriage, is still living.

Born in Tulare County, on August 16, 1887, Charles E. Barnum was educated at the public grammar and high schools. When he laid aside his school books in 1908, he entered the county auditor's office as a deputy to his father; and he continued to assist him until the latter's death, when he was appointed auditor by the Board of Supervisors. He took up the work of his father and was a candidate for election, and at the primaries he was elected over all candidates by a majority of some 6,000 votes. In 1918, he was again a candidate and was elected, this time by a majority of over 12,000 votes, to hold office till January, 1923, showing the confidence his fellow-citizens repose in him.

Mr. Barnum was married in Fresno to Miss Hazel M. Alexander, a native of Seattle, but who was reared in Fresno, and who enjoys here the admiration and good will of a wide circle of friends.

A Republican, always active in politics, Mr. Barnum has never permitted party affiliation to stand in his way of supporting the best local measures, while he has always conducted the official affairs entrusted to him in the broadest and most vigorous spirit.

Besides these qualifications which have fitted him especially for exacting public responsibility, Mr. Barnum enjoys personal traits which render him popular socially. He is a familiar figure in the Elks, the Native Sons and the Independent Order of Foresters, a member of the Baptist Church, and both a live wire and a level-headed leader in the Commercial Club.

J. A. JOHNSON.—California owes much to its experienced and wisely conservative men of finance, for the money market must supply the sinews of trade, as of war, and there never has been a time, since the foundations were laid for our great Republic, when there has not been need for some one to look ahead and estimate costs and the wherewithal to meet them. This has been especially so in such new commonwealths as that of California, so that the financier, as well indeed as the commercial man of affairs, has come to play a most necessary and important part in everyday life, their operations and influence extending to practically everything and everybody.

J. A. Johnson, a native of Sweden, where he was born on August 18, 1871 but an American by choice, through and through, is one of those privileged to serve his fellowmen in this important field of finance. He early came to Oakland, and graduated from Heald's Business College at San Francisco.

Then, to become familiar with the fruit industry, he joined the Hatch & Rock Orchard Company at Biggs, Butte County, where he was bookkeeper and superintendent from 1893 to 1902. Next he became head of the bookkeeping office of Miller & Lux at Los Banos, and in that capacity he was active until 1909.

The year 1910 brought Mr. Johnson and Kerman into lucky contact, and he was made assistant cashier of the bank of which he is now cashier. In 1914 Mr. Johnson became manager of the Fresno Irrigated Farms Company, which began operations in what is now the Kerman district, putting in its own irrigation system. About 15,000 acres have been sold since Mr. Johnson came here. He is manager also of the Kerman Telephone Company and of the Kerman News; he likewise manages the California Stock Food Company and the Kerman Creamery.

While at Biggs, Mr. Johnson was married to Mae T. Snider, of a well-known pioneer family of Stockton; and they have three children: Marion Alfred, Merritt Eldred, and Eleanor.

Fond of mingling with and knowing his fellowmen, and therefore accustomed to come into such relations with others as best enables him to serve where he is needed, and to strengthen the interests of all he represents, Mr. Johnson is a member of the Kerman Lodge No. 420, F. & A. M., the Scottish Rite in Fresno, and Islam Temple in San Francisco; and of the Independent Order of Foresters in San Francisco. During the drives of the various Liberty Loans he was the chairman of the loan committee and carried his district "over the top" each time, and for the third and fourth, the Kerman district had the distinction of being the first in the state to go over.

AUGUST H. HALEMEIER.—A broad-minded, liberal-hearted and public-spirited citizen, who takes pleasure in his work as a progressive viticulturist, and who by using the most up-to-date methods and the most approved apparatus, has been successful to a high degree, is August H. Halemeier, a native of Wallenbruck, Westphalia, Germany, where he was born December 18, 1886, the oldest child of August and Marie (Sickmann) Halemeier. They came to America and the Golden State; and while they were toiling here to make a competency, young August was left with an uncle, Henry Halemeier, who owned a farm at Wallenbruck. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Halemeier had no son, and did for him as they would for their own, giving him the advantages of the thorough German public schools. When, however, he had completed his schooling, and had reached the age of fourteen, he left Germany for the United States, and arrived in California in 1901. His uncle and aunt were naturally very loath to have him depart, but he was anxious to join his parents, who had become vineyardists in the Eggers Colony, Fresno County, and to their comfortable ranch he repaired as soon as he could. Entering the public school in the Temperance district, he began in the first grade; and as he had already received a good start, and was wanting mainly in the matter of English, he finished the course in two terms. His ambition was by no means satisfied, however, and he entered and graduated from the Chestnutwoods Business College. In spare moments, and at the end of the commercial course, he assisted his father, and so learned the intricate tasks of a viticulturist.

On the second of March, 1909, Mr. Halemeier started on a trip back to Germany, to visit his uncle and aunt, and to see the old home and former friends, going by way of Chicago, Washington and New York. His uncle and aunt both begged him to remain as their only son and heir; but the call of the new West was strong, and no inducement could shake him from his determination to return to his adopted country when he had concluded his visit. September, 1909, therefore, found him back in California, where he continued to assist his father; and in December, 1912, he was married at Fresno to Miss Sophia Albrecht, a native of San Jose and the daughter of



A. H. Halmeier

Amos and Marie (Hoernicke) Albrecht, natives respectively of Germany and Indiana. Her father, a blacksmith, had resided for a while in Orange County; while the mother, having come West, was reared there. The mother is dead, but the father, who took a vineyard when he came to Fresno, is still residing here.

After marrying, Mr. Halemeier bought his present twenty-acre vineyard and moved there, and at the same time he bought forty acres of the adjoining farm of his father. After a while, he secured twenty acres more by purchase and still later bought forty acres more. He himself has set out fifty acres to a vineyard, and has also given generously of his time and support to the California Associated Raisin Company. He has eighty acres in one body and forty acres one mile west, and his shipping station is at Locan, on the corner of his home ranch, on the Sanger line of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

Three children, August, Marie and Walter, share the family and church life of their parents, the family attending the German Lutheran Church of Fresno, where Mr. Halemeier is a member of the board of trustees. He is a Republican in national politics, but never allows his party affiliations to interfere with his support of what he believes to be the best measures for his locality.

R. M. JONES, M. D.—California has a physician of exceptional ability and valuable experience in Dr. R. M. Jones of Fresno. Dr. Jones was born in Missouri, January 11, 1882, the son of R. M. and Amanda (Jackson) Jones. The father was a mechanic and is still living. R. M. Jones was educated in the public schools of Missouri, after which he took up a course in the Brooklyn Hospital and became a graduate nurse.

Mr. Jones then worked as chief clerk in the bridge and building department for the Santa Fe for four years, following which he took a medical course in Vanderbilt University at Nashville, Tenn., and after graduating served his internship in the Lane Hospital in San Francisco. Dr. Jones then began the practice of medicine in Fresno.

Dr. Jones is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in Fresno; he holds membership in the County Medical Society, and State and American Medical Associations; fraternally he is a Mason, a member of the Blue Lodge and the Eastern Star; and also belongs to the Knights of Pythias, Odd Fellows, Foresters, Maccabees, Woodmen of the World, Owls, Druids, Eagles, Redmen and the Fraternal Brotherhood. Having served in the Spanish-American War in the Philippines, he is a member of the Spanish-American War Veterans. He served also as surgeon in the California State Militia on the Mexican border during the late Mexican trouble and as Captain in present war, stationed at Ft. Riley, Kans. He is deeply interested in the county and its development, and owns a vineyard to which he gives the best of attention.

HENRY AGGERS.—One of the oldest oil men in this section, who is now engaged in dairying as proprietor of Aggers Dairy, is Henry Aggers, who was born in Sodom, eight miles from Pittsburg, Allegheny County, Pa., on August 8, 1844. His father, Christopher Aggers, a native of Germany, came to Pennsylvania when he was twenty-three years old and there followed farming until his death in 1846. The mother was Hannah (Lutz) Aggers, who also died in Pennsylvania, aged sixty-three. The name was originally spelled Eggers, but Henry and a cousin, G. L. Aggers, changed their name to Aggers.

Henry Aggers was the second oldest of three children and was brought up on the farm in Sodom, Pa., receiving a good education in the public school. During the Civil War he volunteered, but was rejected because he was not tall enough. In September, 1862, he went to Oil City, Venango County, Pa., where he worked in the oil field from the bottom to driller and then to superintendent. Later he became a producer, owning wells of his own in Butler County, and continued until he was frozen out by the larger oil companies. He

then resumed work as a driller, got a start, and again became a producer in Montpelier, Blackford County, Ind., where he had a production of \$450 a day, but was again frozen out.

In 1899 he came to California and worked in the Los Angeles oil fields. Returning then to Pennsylvania, he continued there until 1904, when he came to Indian Territory and engaged in contract drilling for two years. He then came to the Kern River field in California, where he was a driller with the Aztec Oil Company. In 1909 he came to Coalinga as driller for the Bricks Oil Company. Becoming interested in the Valley Oil Company, he sunk a well and struck oil, but through mismanagement it was a failure. Afterwards he was driller for the Standard Oil Company, and then for the Union Oil Company until on account of his age he resigned and started Aggers Dairy in Coalinga, where he has a herd of good cows and has built up a nice business. His dairy is equipped with the most sanitary methods for caring for and feeding the cows, and treating the milk before it is retailed to customers.

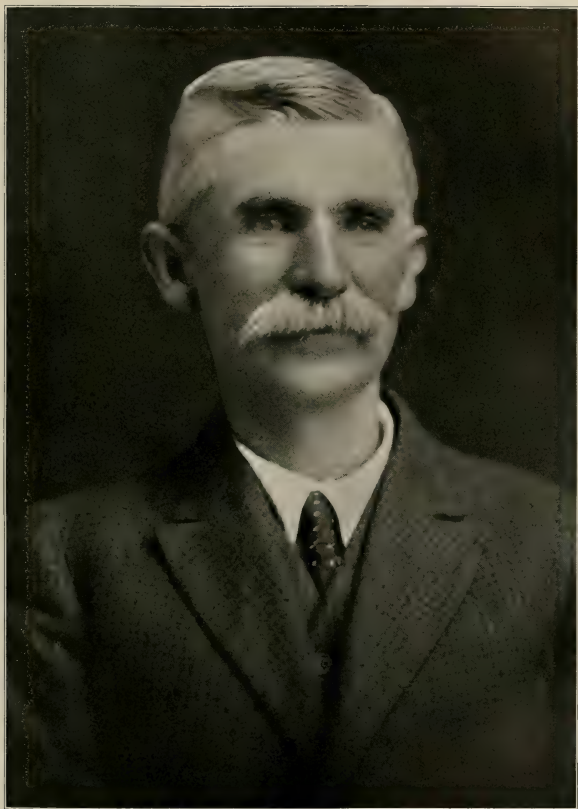
In Pennsylvania occurred the marriage of Mr. Aggers and Elizabeth Guthrie, who was a native of Clarion County, Pa. They have five children: Roy and Harry are oil superintendents in Oklahoma; Walter is with the K. T. & O. Oil Company at Coalinga; Frank is also an oil superintendent in Oklahoma; and Leonora is Mrs. Groundwater, of San Luis Obispo. Mr. Aggers has been a member of both the Knights of the Maccabees and the Elks. In national politics he is a Democrat.

JAMES WALLACE THOMPSON.—The son of a California pioneer of 1849, although born in Missouri, James Wallace Thompson has made a record for himself in Fresno County. He first saw the light of day July 22, 1855, in Cole County, where his father, Joseph Coe Thompson had settled in 1853.

The elder Thompson was a native of Tennessee, who crossed the plains in 1849, in the train of N. C. Bachman and in the same big train also came Governor Edwards. Mr. Thompson spent three years in the mining districts, then returned to his eastern home via Panama, and the following year took up his residence in Cole County, Mo. In young manhood he had married Elizabeth Jane Greenup, a native of Missouri. They farmed in Cole County until 1861, but the call of the West was too strong to be resisted any longer, and with his family, Mr. Thompson came to California via Panama, landing May 9, 1861, at the Daulton ranch in what is now Madera County, then owned by N. C. Bachman. Three years were spent on that ranch, during which time Mr. Thompson discovered the Ne Plus Ultra copper mine. In 1864 the family removed to the location where James Wallace Thompson now lives and where the father took up a homestead and preempted 320 acres of land upon which he raised hogs and cattle. He traded an interest in the copper mine to Henry Clay Daulton for a small band of sheep and from 1872 to 1886 was engaged successfully in raising sheep. The elder Thompson passed away on March 10, 1909; his wife had preceded him, on December 14, 1875. Both were devout members of the Methodist Episcopal Church South at Academy. Their three children are: James Wallace, our subject; Mary E., who was the wife of G. P. Baley and who died at Tollhouse; and Annie L., a native daughter, born in Fresno County, who presides over her brother's home on the old Thompson ranch, of which she is part owner.

Jim Thompson, as he is familiarly known, was educated in the public school at Academy. From a lad he assisted his father on the farm and helped make the needed improvements. In 1886 they sold the sheep and began raising cattle, to which the ranch has since been devoted. It was in that year that Jim took charge of his father's place, and he has since given his attention to the cattle business. The property has been increased in acreage, until there are 640 acres in the home place at Academy, besides 1,200 acres of range land in the same vicinity.

Mr. Thompson owns 200 acres on Huntington Lake, near the foot of Mt. Kaiser, lying within the National Forest Reserve, where he has ranged



J. W. Thompson.

his cattle in the summer since 1886, and where he has built a summer home. He also runs some of his cattle on the Reserve near Trimmer. Mr. Thompson is a well-posted and successful cattleman. His operations have been on a large scale and his success has been in proportion.

From a boy Jim had a desire to play the violin and made violins from cigar-boxes. Prof. J. D. Collins, his teacher at Academy, on Jim's sixteenth birthday presented him with an excellent violin. The boy was delighted and by self-study he learned to play and read music, and before long his talent was in much demand at dances and parties. He still treasures the violin given him by his teacher.

Mr. Thompson is a Democrat in national politics, and his religious association is with the Methodist Episcopal Church South. During the many years Mr. Thompson has lived in Fresno County he has won the esteem and good will of many friends.

FRANK T. BAILEY.—A representative of one of America's French-Canadian families, and an enthusiastic Californian who is a good booster of Laton and the Laguna de Tache, is Frank T. Bailey, a successful rancher who lives three-fourths of a mile east of Laton. He was born at Lancaster, Grant County, Wis., on January 21, 1862, the son of Antoin Bailey, who was originally called Bailant, after which he anglicized his name. He was born at Quebec, and he married Jemima Day, a native of Kentucky who came with her parents to Wisconsin when she was three years old. Her parents had been married at Lancaster, Pa., and the father was a farmer. After a while he sold his forty acres in Wisconsin and moved to Kansas, and this was in her eleventh year. He settled in Rice County, on the Little Arkansas River. There were five children, three boys and two girls, and our subject was the oldest. Rather recently the parents came to Los Angeles, and there they both ended their days, the father reaching his sixty-sixth year, the mother her sixty-fifth.

Frank was educated in part in Iowa, where the Baileys lived for two years after they left Wisconsin and before they went to Kansas, and in part in the latter state, where for a year he attended the Washburn College at Topeka, when he was a schoolmate of Senator John J. Ingall's son. In 1888 he went west to Hamilton County, Kans., and took up and homesteaded 160 acres of land, which he proved up; and while there he was married to Miss Tillie Carlyle, when they lived in a dugout. She also had come out to Hamilton County and taken up and preempted land, and she lived in the same vicinity. He contracted with her to bake bread for him, and that arrangement resulted in a life contract. She was born at Lawrenceville, in Lawrence County, Ill., and is a daughter of William and Elizabeth (Irwin) Carlyle. Her parents were both born in Ohio and married there, and they both died in Illinois when she was five years old. She had three brothers, and a sister who died when fourteen, and the children were put out in different families. She lived with her uncle, John Carlyle, for six years, and then being twelve, went to live at the home of Thomas Kirkwood at the town of Lawrenceville. Here she had a good home and was able to attend the public schools. She came out to Kansas with the same cousin's family, and decided to stay.

Five years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Bailey proved up a homestead, and soon after that they moved to Sedgwick County, Kans., where they lived on a farm south of Wichita. They farmed in that county until 1906, when they went to Los Angeles, Cal. Mr. Bailey there made some unlucky business investments, through which he lost about all that he had. In 1911, however, he came to Laton and in February rented Charles Nowlin's ranch of 160 acres six miles north of Laton. The following December, he bought forty acres where he now lives. He has since bought forty acres more, and his son, Glenn, has also bought twenty acres, which lie directly between the two parcels of forty acres just referred to. The ranch is well irrigated, and he has two silos. At first, Mr. Bailey embarked in the raising of Percheron

horses, but this he has discontinued, and now he produces beef and pork. His ranch is called the Twin Oaks.

Mr. and Mrs. Bailey have four children: Alta M., the wife of Clark D. Long, who is employed by the Santa Fe Railroad at Hanford, and they have one child; Cora B., the wife of William Hebner, a plumber of Los Angeles, and they have two children; Glenn C., who is a partner in farming with his father and who married Rilla Vaughn, a native of Kansas and the daughter of J. W. and Mary (Montgomery) Vaughn, and they have one child, Velma; and Paul H., who attended the Laton High School, and who is a trap-drummer in the First Aerial Band of the Twenty-sixth Aerial Squadron.

Mr. Bailey is a student of the social problems of the day, and votes for principles such as he believes the world is in need of, and for the best men. He favors the Progressive Republican platform, and also Prohibition. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias, Lodge No. 44, at Wichita, and to Laton Camp, Modern Woodmen of America. Mrs. Bailey is a member of the Methodist Church and a trustee.

MARVIN A. GALLAHER.—As merchant and postmaster at Squaw Valley, Fresno County, Marvin A. Gallaher enjoys to the fullest extent the confidence and respect of his community. Nestling among the foothills of the Sierras, Squaw Valley is one of the beautiful and picturesque spots so numerous in California, where people gather to enjoy the beauties and splendors of nature, with a healthful and invigorating climate as an added attraction.

Marvin Gallaher is a native of Tennessee, born in Decatur, Meigs County, March 15, 1881, and is the son of Dr. J. A. and Mary Gallaher, also natives of Tennessee. To Dr. Gallaher twelve children were born, by two marriages, five of whom are now residing in California, and two of these in Fresno County. Dr. Gallaher was a physician and surgeon of long and extensive practice, and studied under eminent professors. His death occurred December 6, 1898. Marvin Gallaher was reared and received a liberal education in his native state. He has followed clerical work since his school days, with some time given to agriculture. He migrated to California in 1901 and for six years worked as a ranch hand. In 1907 he engaged in the cigar and tobacco business, and also ran a pool-room and soda fountain in Porterville, Tulare County. He opened the first open-front cigar stand in town. He equipped and ran two of the best billiard and pool halls there, under the firm name of Gallaher & Coates. He bought Coates' interest and the firm became Gallaher & Breeden until 1917, when he came to Squaw Valley. In 1908 his marriage occurred, uniting him with Miss Susie Breeden, the daughter of Dr. S. G. Breeden of Decatur, Tenn., and of this union four children have been born: Morrell T.; Austin R.; Ralph L.; and Clarence A. Mr. and Mrs. Gallaher are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The postoffice at Squaw Valley is one of the oldest in Fresno County, and much of historical interest is attached to the place. In early days the Indians left their squaws in this beautiful spot while they went to do battle with the foe, and to gather meat from the hunt for the coming winter.

OSCAR F. BACON.—A worthy descendant of an honored pioneer settler of Antioch, Cal., Oscar F. Bacon, the enterprising and successful horticulturist residing seven miles northeast of Sanger, was born near Tonganoxie, Kans., April 6, 1874. His father, James M. Bacon, was a native of Kentucky coming as a pioneer settler to Kansas, he was married to Nancy J. Skaggs, who was born in Iowa. She was the daughter of Andrew and Rachael (Howard) Skaggs, who migrated to California in 1875, locating at Antioch. J. M. Bacon was a farmer near Tonganoxie, and there his wife died in 1894. When he retired he came to California and died in Sanger, December 23, 1917, aged over eighty-one years. Nine children blessed this union, seven



Felix Heringer

of whom grew up: John; Ida; May, deceased; Oscar F.; Nilo; Albert; and Mrs. Mattie Edmiston.

In 1888, John Bacon migrated to California and by his glowing accounts of the wonderful California climate, and splendid opportunities for enterprising young men to engage in ranching, or mercantile business, he eventually induced the rest of the family to locate in the Golden State.

Oscar F. Bacon came to California in 1897 and located in Fresno County, where he worked at farming, later going to Sonoma County where he was engineer for the Duncan Mills Land and Lumber Company and the Western Lumber Company. Returning to Fresno County in 1910, he purchased a ranch in Round Mountain district which contained sixty acres, this he improved and planted figs, prunes, peaches, grapes and oranges.

Mr. Bacon was married at Excelsior Springs, Mo., June 19, 1916, to Julia Gray, also a native of Tonganoxie, Kans., a daughter of Matthew Gray, who was born under the English flag on the sailer Glencairn, when his parents, Andrew and Margaret (Burns) Gray, migrated from Ayre, Scotland, to Canada; later the family moved to Tonganoxie, where Mr. Gray is a successful farmer; his wife is Cornelia Mayginnnes, born in Shelby County, Ohio, in 1852, coming to Kansas when a girl, in 1864, and in 1875 she married Mr. Gray; she died March 23, 1918. Mrs. Bacon is the eldest of their two children and is a graduate from the course in Elocution in Campbell University at Holton.

Fraternally, Mr. Bacon was made a Mason at Guerneville and is now a member of Sanger Lodge, No. 316; he is also a member of the Woodmen of the World. Mrs. Bacon is a member of Rinda Chapter, O. E. S., at Tonganoxie.

FELIX HEINZER.—If Barstow Colony has a better hustler than Felix Heinzer, prince of good fellows and an expert dairyman, then no one has yet discovered it, for ever since he came to Fresno County about seven years ago, he has demonstrated one after another successful possibility which has made even the wideawake folks of Barstow sit up, look and listen. He was born in Mutterthal, Canton Schwyz, Switzerland, on March 9, 1876, the son of Anton Heinzer, a thrifty farmer of the region who died in 1896. He had led to the altar Agatha Gwerder, who proved to him a blessed helpmate, and she closed her eyes to this world just ten years later. She was the mother of five children, four of whom still live to honor the family name.

Felix, the third youngest, was brought up a farmer's boy in the high Alps, for his father's farm was above the timberland and subject to a mantle of deep snow for seven and sometimes eight months of the year. There he learned dairying according to true Swiss fashion, and while yet a lad was busied with cheese and butter-making. He attended the public schools, nevertheless, and such was his filial feeling that he remained at home to help his parents until his father died. Then the family farm was rented, and Felix joined the Swiss army, becoming a non-commissioned officer in Battalion 86 of the Eighth Division.

In the fall of 1903, however, having bade good-bye to the scenes so familiar and so endearing, Mr. Heinzer came to San Francisco, where he secured employment in a dairy for a year, after which he moved about a little, going first to San Joaquin County, then to Marin County, then to Monterey County, back to San Francisco, and then to Sutter County. All this time he was engaged in dairying; and as he found nothing to attract him permanently, he came back to San Francisco, then went to Ventura County, returned to the Bay Metropolis, and next moved to Monterey County again, where he was eighteen months in one dairy as butter-maker. After that he went to Fruitvale, then to San Mateo County, next to Santa Clara County, then to Madera, and four months later—in 1911—to Fresno.

Here, for a year and a half, he was in the service of the Big Four Ranch,

and then he shifted to Coalinga where he leased a dairy for fourteen months. He called his business the Coalinga Dairy, and he established a milk route for that town. The McKay dairy at Fresno, however, attracted him for nine months, then he spent a couple of months at Riverdale, and next was thirteen months at Burrel, then to Barstow, where he worked in a dairy for George Miller.

Three years ago Mr. Heinzer rented his present advantageous place of eighty acres in Barstow Colony, with an option to purchase. In the spring of 1919 he took advantage of his option and purchased the property. He is devoting himself to dairying, and on such a scale that he milks some twenty-five cows. These are chiefly Holsteiners, and it goes without saying that the products of his dairy are only of the highest grade. He was also interested in the Cooperative Dairymen's Association, in which he was a director until it became a part of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association, of which he is an enthusiastic member. In addition, he is a moving spirit in the California Peach Growers, Inc. He is now preparing to set out a Thompson seedless vineyard on his ranch.

Few busy men enjoy life more than does Mr. Heinzer, who is influential and ever interesting, and who has won the esteem of many friends. He belongs to the Fraternal Brotherhood at Barstow, to St. Alphonzo's Catholic Church at Fresno, and to the Republican party. The latter two organizations in particular afford Mr. Heinzer abundant opportunity for the expression of his religious and political preferences.

CARL KERNER.—An old-timer in Fresno County who has worked hard and conscientiously, and has acquired, as a reward, a comfortable competency, so that his many friends are happy to see him at last enjoying life, is Carl Kerner, who came to the county about the middle of the eighties. He was born in Skadofski, Samara, Russia, on September 22, 1855, the son of Carl Kerner, a farmer now eighty-three years old, who had married Kathrina Fuchs, and she died there, the mother of six children, all of whom are living.

Carl is the eldest, and was brought up on a farm, where he learned the wagon-maker's trade. He had attended the common schools, and in time served in the Russian army as a member of a regiment of infantry in the war with the Turks in 1877-78. He followed farming and had a wagon-shop; and while in Russia he married Elisa Rudolph, who was born there.

One day he read in the newspapers the wonderful story of Fresno as a new town and decided to come out here; and suiting the thought to action, he arrived in June, 1887, and was therefore one of the first settlers from Russia to come to Central California. He went to work in a planing mill and soon assisted to build the Hughes Hotel. He continued as a carpenter, and little by little worked in ranches and vineyards.

In 1893 he bought his present place, then all raw land. He improved ten acres of it with an orchard, but let it go back to the owner. He then contracted to build residences in Fresno, and in 1906 bought the property back again. Having dug out the orchard, he set out vines and now has a fine vineyard and orchard of twenty-five acres on McKinley Avenue. He has ten acres of Thompson seedless, and the balance in peaches. He built a residence and improved the property in many ways. Then he joined both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc., and took more and more interest in civic affairs as a Republican.

Six children have blessed Mr. and Mrs. Kerner: Samuel B., a shop foreman with the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company at Fresno; Henry R., storekeeper for that concern; Anna, who is Mrs. Koroch, in Fresno; Elizabeth, who has become Mrs. Holmes there; and Letha and Carl, who are at home. The Kerners also have an adopted child, Mollie Kruse, now ten years old. They worship at the Church of God in Fresno.



David Seacord

DAVID SEACORD.—A pioneer of California who has taken a part in the development of the West Side in the San Joaquin Valley, having opened the first coal mine at Coalinga, is David Seacord, who was born in West Davenport, Delaware County, N. Y., October 15, 1847, the next to the youngest of six children of William and Mary (Eddy) Seacord, also natives of Delaware County. The father crossed the plains to California in 1849, engaging in mining in El Dorado County for some time, then returning east. He made a second trip to California but again returned to New York where he settled down to farming in Delaware County and there he and his wife passed away. David had a brother, Thomas, who served in an Illinois Regiment in the Civil War, until he died at Memphis, Tenn.

David Seacord spent his youth on the farm in the Catskill Mountains, in the Upper Susquehanna Valley, meanwhile attending the public schools. When thirteen years of age he went to Marietta, Washington County, Ohio, where he paddled his own canoe. In August, 1862, he responded to his country's call, and enlisted for the Civil War, serving in the Thirty-ninth Ohio Regiment for about one year, when he was discharged on account of disability. After recovering his health he again enlisted, this time in Company G, One Hundred Forty-eight Ohio Volunteer Infantry, seeing some hard service at Harper's Ferry and through the Shenandoah Valley, at Deep Bottom and in the siege of Petersburg, after which he did provost duty at Bermuda Hundred until he was mustered out and honorably discharged at Marietta, Ohio, in the fall of 1864. He was fortunate in never receiving a scratch and has never applied for nor received a pension.

After his discharge, Mr. Seacord spent four years as an engineer in the oil-fields of West Virginia and then came to Sullivan County, Mo., where he bought the patent right for a bee-hive in three Missouri counties. This he manufactured and sold for several years meeting with success, because it was a practical and splendid bee-hive. In 1873 he came to Colorado and was an engineer near Long's Peak, Colo., until 1876, when he came to Hollister, Cal., and there did carpentering and building. In the fall of 1877 he made a trip into the San Joaquin Valley and was working at Grangeville when he ran across Tom Beatty who engaged him to come to Coalinga and open his coal mine. This was August 15, 1877. He drove the first tunnel and mined the first coal, continuing until March, 1878, when he returned to Hollister and started out to hunt a bee range, finally buying a squatter's claim in Bear Canyon, Fresno County, but as he did not like it or find it suitable, he came to his present place in Warthan Canyon. There was no road, nor any survey, but he and John Bray located squatters' claims and started an apiary, and when the land was open for settlement they located a homestead and pre-emption and also bought land which they cleared and improved. Mr. Bray had been a travelling salesman, so they opened a general merchandise establishment in a store they built on the ranch and built up a large business, extending into adjoining counties. Mr. Bray was postmaster and also deputy county clerk, a man of splendid attainments and fine personality, and they made a success of the business; Mr. Seacord took care of the ranch and the apiary. In 1884 they shipped seventy-five tons of honey which they hauled to Huron, the terminus of the railroad. In 1902 his partner died and Mr. Seacord purchased his interest from his heirs; he closed out the mercantile business and continued farming, horticulture and bee culture.

In early days, Mr. Seacord set out an orchard which has grown well and is bearing good fruit. The Seacord ranch is well improved and is at an altitude of 1,500 feet. The proprietor is well and favorably known, having done much to improve the district. He has been an indefatigable worker and is now in independent circumstances, enjoying the fruits of his labors, having the good will of a host of friends who esteem him for his genial nature and kindness.

FLORENCE (GORDON) COWAN.—In matters of reform legislation and in the sphere of education women have always been avowed advocates. The State of California has been foremost in carrying out these principles, and among the women of the State to whom credit is due should be mentioned Mrs. Florence (Gordon) Cowan, a native Californian, born in Davis, Yolo County. She is the daughter of William Y. Gordon, who was born in South Hero, Grand Isle County, Vt., and who came to California in 1852 via Panama, engaged in mining for two years, and then located a farm in Yolo County. He returned to the East via Panama, and in 1870 was married to Miss Jane Phelps, a native of Vermont. They came to California and he bought more land, having acquired 640 acres, and engaged in grain-farming. He died in 1915 in his eighty-fifth year, his death being caused by his team running away with him. The mother is still living, an honored member of Mrs. Cowan's home. There were five children of whom Mrs. Cowan is the youngest. She was reared in Yolo County.

Mrs. Cowan's life has been one of varied experiences. She was educated in the Oakland schools, graduated from the Oakland High, entered the University of California, studied social science and graduating in 1903 with the degree of B. L. She made application to the American Board of Foreign Missions of the Congregational Church, and was sent as teacher to Kobe College in Kobe, Japan, in 1906, and continued there for five years, teaching English history and science. During these five years she traveled over Japan and into Korea, laying up a store of knowledge that she has put to practical account. In 1911 she resigned her work with the Board, and returned to California. After a year's rest she located in Kerman and became one of the teachers in Kerman Union High School, and in 1914 was elected principal, a position she held until June, 1918. The school offers High School, Commercial and Agricultural Courses, and has a corps of seven teachers with an attendance of from eighty to ninety-six pupils; the grounds occupy twenty acres.

Mrs. Cowan owns an attractive home-place of twenty acres on Clinton Avenue, which is being improved and set to Thompson seedless grapes. She is greatly interested in the advancement of the community and in education, and was very successful as principal; she suggested the organization of the Civic Center and Teachers' Club. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church, and also of the California Teachers Association. Miss Gordon was united in marriage on July 9, 1918, with Alexander Cowan, born in Maybole, Ayrshire, Scotland, and who has been a resident of California since 1905. He is a building contractor, well known in Fresno County.

H. E. VERBLE.—An Illinois native developed to American manhood in Texas, who, by force of character and exceptional business and executive qualifications, has become one of Kingsburg's highly respected and influential citizens, is H. E. Verble, manager of the Valley Lumber Company's lumber yard at Kingsburg, clerk of the city and of the school board, and a leader in other organizations. He was born at Anna, Union County, Ill., on September 9, 1881, and attained his seventeenth year in that State. Then desiring to strike out for himself, he went to Northwestern Texas and for six years was a cowboy, riding the range in the Panhandle country. He worked for the Millirons, Roe Ranch, and X. I. T. cattle companies, and gained a reputation as an experienced and intrepid ranger.

Coming North to California, in 1904, Mr. Verble fortunately had his attention drawn to the exceptional business opportunities in Fresno; and soon after he engaged in a grocery in that city. His early and late endeavors brought increased patronage, and he continued in that field from 1904 until 1906. In the latter year he entered the employ of the Pine Ridge Lumber Company, working for three summers in the woods and around the saw mills, and during the winters in the Valley Lumber Company's yards at

Fresno. The great San Francisco earthquake happened at that time; and as Mr. Verble was a member of the National Guards at Fresno, he was sent to the metropolis and did patrol and rescue work for thirty days in the fire-stricken city.

By hard work and fidelity to his employers, Mr. Verble worked his way up as handler, grader, and foreman, and from 1907 to 1909 acquired that valuable experience which comes through actually doing things. Until August, 1910, he was manager at Bowles, Cal., and later he became manager for the Valley Lumber Company's yards at Kingsburg. This company deals in all kinds of lumber for building purposes and carries a complete line of builders' materials, having the largest lumber yard in Kingsburg.

While resident at Fresno, Mr. Verble was married to Miss Lucy McAfee of that city; they have two children: Hal E. Verble, Jr., and Kathryn. Mr. Verble finds delight in his home life; he belongs to, Traver Lodge, No. 294, F. & A. M. Mr. and Mrs. Verble are both active members of the Eastern Star at Kingsburg, of which both are past officers. Mr. Verble is a Past Master, having served as Master of his lodge in 1916, and having been a delegate to the Grand Lodge in 1915. On January 1, 1919, he became Inspector of the Forty-seventh Masonic District which includes Selma, Kingsburg, Reedley, Dinuba and Arosa.

Preceminently public-spirited, it was Mr. Verble who organized, in 1912, the City of Kingsburg Fire Department, becoming its first chief. He is actively interested in good roads, and did much to secure the State Highway for Kingsburg. He is a member of the Kingsburg Chamber of Commerce, and never fails to support whatever is for the advancement and growth of Kingsburg. He is the efficient clerk of the Board of Trustees of the City of Kingsburg, and has shown equal faithfulness as Clerk of the Board of Trustees of the Kingsburg Joint Union High School. It is a matter of satisfaction to Mr. Verble to note how Kingsburg is rapidly coming to the front. The city is planning an expenditure of \$27,000 in extending its sewer system; and such strides forward are bound to attract many more desirable residents.

WILLIAM H. ALLEN.—A successful rancher, who started life under disadvantages but by industry and honest methods has risen to his present position, is William H. Allen, whose valuable farm property is six miles southwest of Laton, on the Laguna.

Mr. Allen was born in Person County, N. C., the son of William Gaston Allen, also a native of that state, and a planter. His grandfather was D. Allen, a soldier in the Mexican War. The Allens were cotton and tobacco growers in North Carolina for several generations; and Mr. Allen's mother was Martha Sanford, of the prominent Cavalier family of that name. Ten children were born to the estimable parents, five of whom grew to maturity; and all five came to California. Anna is now the wife of Louis Humphreys, and lives on a rented ranch one mile to the east; Thomas J.; William H., our subject; Ella, the second-born, was married in North Carolina to W. A. Tuck, came out to California for her health eleven years ago and died here, leaving three boys and two girls, now married in North Carolina; and Ola is the wife of Joe E. Woodworth, and dwells as a neighbor to William H.

William H. grew up on his father's plantation until his thirteenth year, when both parents died, within six months of each other; after which the children were separated. William lived with his cousin, until about eighteen; then he began to work out for others, by the month, saved what he could, and at the age of twenty-five was married to Mrs. Emma Stokes, the widow of W. T. Stokes of Person County, a farmer by whom she had five children, who went to live with the wife's relatives in North Carolina, after the first wife's death in 1899. Mr. Allen had two children by her: Lennie, now the wife of John W. Richard, who resides at Hanford and has one child; and William G., now working on the pipe line for the Standard

Oil Company. He was in the navy at San Pedro, having left the University of California where he was a Freshman when the war broke out. Mrs. Stokes was Emma Ramsey before her marriage, a member of another well-known North Carolina family, and she died in Person County.

Mr. Allen continued for six years a widower with two children, and in May, 1901, he brought them with him to California, arriving at length at Hanford. Two years later he bought twenty acres and began to make improvements, and he still makes the place his home; he has added to it by purchase, and now he owns fifty acres.

On December 22, 1905, Mr. Allen married a second time, taking for his bride Miss Violet Ryder, a native of New Brunswick, Canada, the daughter of James Ryder, also of the same country, a hunter, trapper and huntsman's guide. Her mother, whose maiden name was Lydia Kierstad, was of Scotch and English blood, but born in New Brunswick. The Ryders came originally from England and settled in the Rhode Island Colony, while the mother's people settled in New York; and about the time of the Revolution they moved to New Brunswick. When fourteen years of age, Mrs. Allen came to New Bedford, Mass., and grew up there, attending the South Lancaster Academy, an Adventist school; and she was a student there when she came to California to visit some of her relatives, fully expecting to go back after a short time. She has since become the mother of six children: Ella, Delbert, Merle, Lloyd, George Muroy, and Ellsworth Manchester.

As a rancher, Mr. Allen raises alfalfa and considerable corn, both Indian and Egyptian, and his products are of the highest quality. Mrs. Allen is a director on the school board in the Adventist Church, and a director of the Laguna Adventist School, which has an attendance of twenty-five pupils.

ALFRED WICKLIFFE.—Since 1905 this gentleman has been a resident of Fresno County and by his executive ability has held positions of trust and responsibility which have given him a standing among his fellows in Parlier and Del Rey vicinities. A native of Missouri, born in Benton County, October 1, 1882, Alfred Wickliffe is a son of Robert and Clara (Hughes) Wickliffe, and second in order of birth in a family of sixteen children, fourteen of whom reached maturity and are living. Four sons served their country in the World War, three entering the service from Missouri, Elmer R.; Ira W.; and Lewis H. Ira W. has been discharged but the others are with the army of occupation. Jerry M. entered the service at Fresno, May 1, 1917, served in the Aviation Corps and for eighteen months was overseas. He was discharged May 16, 1919, and is now at Selma.

Alfred Wickliffe received his education in the public schools in Missouri, followed farming there till 1905, when he came to California and to Fresno County, where he had a brother. He worked in various places until January 1, 1917, when he became manager of the Fortuna Rancho, near Parlier. This ranch comprises 500 acres and is devoted to fruit and nuts and has been under cultivation about thirty years. During the busy season 175 persons were under the supervision of the manager, and in normal times there were twenty. One season's shipment included seven cars of prunes, one car dried peaches, seven cars fresh peaches, and one car English walnuts. This gives a better understanding of the responsibility that was Mr. Wickliffe's. He resigned this position and on May 15, 1919, accepted the position of superintendent of the Del Rio Rey Rancho, with duties of a similar nature as mentioned above. The 520 acres in the ranch are devoted to table and raisin grapes.

In 1912, Mr. Wickliffe was united in marriage with Miss Glenn Myers, daughter of Darius and Susie (Bedford) Myers, and two daughters blessed their union, Winifred C. and Wilma C. On April 14, 1915, Mrs. Wickliffe died and was mourned by her family and many friends. Mr. Wickliffe is a member of the Woodmen of the World and is popular wherever he is known.



Rev Patrick Piese

REV. PATRICK PIERSE.—Well does the student of California history know what the teeming thousands of its population, through many generations, owe to the piety, scholarship, bravery and heroic endeavors of its saintly clergy who helped found and develop the great commonwealth, and the student of recent events will also know how the clergy of the same universal or Catholic Church have in more modern days helped to guide the ship of state, elevate society and so make mankind happier. Among the representatives of this great organization which Protestants, Jews and others not numbered in that fold delight to honor and cooperate with, is the Rev. Patrick Pierse, the rector of St. Paul's Catholic Church at Coalinga.

He was born in County Kerry, in Erin's green isle, on February 7, 1887, and first studied the classics, as the basis of the scholarship desired, at San Brendans Seminary. He then prepared for the Christian ministry at All Hallows College, Dublin, and at St. Patrick's College, in Carlow; and within the sacred walls of the latter institution, so famed for its thorough and conscientious work, he was ordained to the priesthood on May 26, 1912, for the Diocese of Monterey and Los Angeles, by Bishop Foley.

Having chosen California as his field of missionary work, Father Pierse crossed the wide ocean and the great continent, and arrived at Santa Monica in the fall of the same year. He was not long in getting domiciled and in obtaining an insight into American life and institutions; and he became assistant to the Rev. Patrick Hawe at Santa Monica's Catholic Church, Santa Monica.

In November, 1917, Father Pierse, after an effectual ministry at Santa Monica, in which he faithfully endeavored to preach the Gospel and to win souls to Christ and the holy Church, took charge of St. Paul's Catholic Church at Coalinga; and as this is his first real charge, it is fortunate that he is so pleased with California, and so eager to become identified, more and more with her growth. His congregation has six hundred souls, and besides ministering to their many wants, Father Pierse each month holds a service at Oilfield, and Sunday School there each Sunday.

Father Pierse is a live worker and organizer in the Knights of Columbus, and is alert to strengthen every agency for good already sponsored by the Church. In addition, he takes a keen interest in civic affairs and the purification of politics and the elevation of the franchise; and he may be counted on to be second to no one in endorsing every good movement, and in taking part in every good work, calculated to raise the morals of the community, the county and the state.

JOHN H. CARPENTER.—Fresno County is proud of the men who till the soil within her borders, and none stand higher in the esteem of their fellows than John H. Carpenter, owner of a twenty-acre raisin vineyard near Lone Star. Mr. Carpenter was born at Spanish Fort, Montague County, Texas, June 13, 1880, a son of Jonas Michael and Nannie (Adkins) Carpenter. The father was born on March 21, 1849, and died May 27, 1896, in the place of his birth, Montague County, Texas. The mother is the daughter of James B. and Sarah Adkins, both of whom are deceased. She was born on September 10, 1858, and is now residing in Oklahoma. She became the mother of the following children: Ida F., wife of Thomas Moore; John H., who married Maggie E. Cannon; William B., who married Alson Lee; Mary E., Mrs. Milton A. Duncan; George E., who married Bessie Griggsby; Hattie M., the wife of T. J. Gardenhire; James M., who married Bertha Wood; and Luther F., who married Marie W. Hail. Grandfather Moses Carpenter married for his first wife Avalina Costner, on June 26, 1827. She died on October 21, 1842, and on July 13, 1843, he was married to Francis Rudisell. He died June 10, 1858, and his widow passed away March 16, 1862.

When John H. Carpenter was nine years old his parents moved to Chickasaw Reservation, Okla., and here the lad attended the public school in their district, grew up on his father's farm, and became familiar with farming and

stockraising. In 1898 he went to Washita County, and in 1900 he established a home of his own, marrying Miss Maggie Cannon, born in Kentucky, but at that time residing in Oklahoma. This union has been blessed with four children, Bertha, a graduate of the Fresno Business College; Opal, who died aged nine years; and Leona and Elsie.

Upon his arrival in California, Mr. Carpenter settled in Fresno County and began to familiarize himself with the fruit business. As soon as the warehouse at Lone Star became the property of the California Associated Raisin Company, in 1912, he became connected with the concern and thereafter worked hard to make it a successful venture for the company in that part of the county. The building is situated on the Santa Fe Railway, about eight miles southeast from Fresno, and is equipped with a stemmer and other necessary appurtenances to facilitate the handling of raisins. The warehouse was originally built by the raisin growers of that locality during the time that M. Theo. Kearney was president of the Raisin Association. In 1918, Mr. Carpenter was made manager of the warehouse and served during that season. He also runs his own ranch on North Avenue, which gives evidence of a master hand.

The Carpenter family are members of the Christian Church, in which organization Mr. Carpenter has been very active, for some time being superintendent of the Sunday school. He is a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood, and in politics supports the Democratic administration. In the community where they have lived all these years, Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter and family are highly respected by all who know them.

PHILIPP RATHGEBER.—A valuable addition to the citizenry of Fresno County is Philipp Rathgeber, a well known pioneer of Yankton, S. D., and a successful cattleman and large landowner in that state. He made his advent into Fresno County in May, 1918, when he purchased the I. N. Zook place, a well improved ranch of forty acres devoted to raising peaches, figs and raisin grapes. This property he sold in February, 1919.

Philipp Rathgeber was born in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany, November 14, 1857, a son of Christian and Barbara (Stiers) Rathgeber, both of whom were natives of Germany and were married there. In 1870, Mr. and Mrs. C. Rathgeber, with their family of four children, emigrated to America, remaining in New York City about six months, then they removed to St Louis, Mo., where they resided eighteen months. Mrs. Rathgeber had one brother and two sisters at Yankton, S. D., which was then known as Dakota Territory, and in 1872 the family moved to Yankton where the father bought a farm and here he continued to live until his death, during the winter of 1882, aged fifty-eight years. The mother continued to make her home at Yankton until she passed away in 1916, at the age of eighty-two years, having resided in Dakota for forty-four years. Mr. and Mrs. Christian Rathgeber were the parents of four children: Philipp; Katie, who is the wife of Gust Miellands, of Yankton; Jacob, ex-sheriff of Yankton County, S. D., and a hardware merchant in Yankton; and Barbara, who is the wife of Bruno Strube, a partner in the hardware business with Jacob.

Philipp Rathgeber grew to manhood at Yankton, where he worked on the home place, having broken up the prairie land with oxen and horses for his father, who was in poor health. When twenty-four years of age in 1882, Mr. Rathgeber was united in marriage with Mary Ruben, a native of Madison County, Ill., who came to Yankton in the winter of 1880. They are the parents of five children: Emma, the wife of Mike Crowell, farmer and stockman of Meade County, S. D.; Pearl, the wife of Bert Zook, a raisin-grower of Fresno County; Walter, who married Miss Hazel Wilkinson, of Sanger, and served his country in the army; Lucy and Cassius, who are at home.

After his marriage Mr. Rathgeber started farming for himself in Bon Homme County, S. D., and in 1886 he moved to Rapid City where he took up a homestead and proved up on 160 acres. He engaged in the cattle busi-

ness on the Cheyenne River and became very prosperous, and added by purchase to his original homestead until now he is the owner of 750 acres.

Mr. Rathgeber continued farming in South Dakota until the spring of 1918, when his health began to fail, and like many others who needed a change of climate, his thoughts turned towards California and in May, 1918, he came to Fresno County, and here he is regaining his health and enjoying the glorious climate and sunshine of the Golden State, happy in the thought that now he is safe from the severity of Dakota's blizzards. Mr. Rathgeber is a man of much business ability and numbers among his acquaintances in South Dakota such noted men as Hon. Bartlett Tripp of Yankton, Ex-Governor Andrew E. Lee of Vermilion, Ex-Senator Frank Pettigrew of Sioux Falls, and Senator Johnson of Armour, S. D.

R. W. MASSEY, V. S.—A young and promising veterinary surgeon of acknowledged ability, Dr. R. W. Massey has been a resident of Reedley since April, 1916; and although but a recent acquisition to the professional circles of the town, he is rapidly becoming known as an expert in his special branch of surgery. He possesses a genial disposition and is skilful and courteous in his practice, which are potent factors in the rapid growth of his clientele. He was born in Texas, on June 21, 1891, the son of J. A. and Emma (Montgomery) Massey, natives of Georgia and Texas respectively. The family migrated to California in 1906 and are now residents of Selma. J. A. and Emma Massey were the parents of three children: Mary, Ola, and the subject of this sketch, Dr. R. W. Massey.

Dr. Massey's early education was received in the public schools and was supplemented by attendance at the San Francisco Veterinary College, from which institution he was graduated in 1916. In April of the same year he established an office in Reedley, where he has been very successful in the practice of his profession. His office and hospital are equipped with the most modern appliances for the prosecution of scientific veterinary surgery and the combating of prevalent diseases of domestic animals.

Dr. R. W. Massey's marriage was solemnized on February 8, 1913, when he was united with Miss Ethel Gaut, daughter of J. A. Gaut, of Missouri. Her parents migrated to California about 1902. Two children have been born to Dr. and Mrs. Massey: Frances; and Jack, who passed away in 1916.

OLE H. STAY.—Among the progressive and prosperous ranchers in Mt. Olive Township—a rancher of the type that California needs and welcomes from among the most intelligent and industrious of the immigrants from other States—is O. H. Stay whose handsome residence, full-bearing vineyards and fruitful orchards speak eloquently of a life with a purpose, and a life with something accomplished. Mr. Stay took charge of forty acres of fruitland without previous experience, and made a success of the venture; and then, having established confidence in himself, and the confidence of others in him, and provided a good market, purchased forty acres more and built a home suitable for a town residence. In 1919 he bought twenty acres more and improved it to muscats, peaches and figs.

A native of picturesque and romantic Norway, where he was born on July 21, 1858, Mr. Stay was reared and educated in the Scandinavian peninsula, and when he was twenty-two he set sail for the New World. He first went to Canada, but concluding that the United States offered still greater inducements to the stranger who had his way to make in the world, he came under the Stars and the Stripes. Pushing to the northwest, he located in Minneapolis, and for five years he was active there in the lumber business, serving others. After that, he came farther West and at Sharon and Mayville, N. D., he continued in the same line, but for himself. Some years having elapsed, he sold out his interests and moved to Minnesota, where he turned his attention to agriculture. Naturally progressive, blessed

with excellent powers of observation and quick to learn, he continued for nine years in the North Star State.

In 1911, Mr. Stay came to California to look around; returned for a short while to South Dakota, to reenter the lumber business at Wallace, and then, after a year, sold out there for good, came to California again, and located in Fresno County, taking up his home on his present ranch. Now, by the most advanced methods, he leads in producing muscatel, Thompson and Malaga grapes, and peaches, with some acres of alfalfa.

In 1888, Mr. Stay married Miss Aletta Mogedahl, by whom he has had six children: Henrietta, now Mrs. Serstock; Clarence M.; William Reuben; Echo M.; Phillip V.; and Lylha. Clarence entered the infantry service on August 6, 1918, and after training several months was on board ship ready to go to France when the armistice was signed. He was discharged in February, 1919. William Reuben enlisted on August 5, 1917, in the U. S. Marines, trained at Mare Island, then was sent to New London, Conn., where he remained until discharged in March, 1919, as a corporal.

Mr. Stay is a worthy and popular member of the Masonic fraternity, having been made a Mason in Cooperstown, N. D. He is active in all civic movements, and with his good wife is always ready to aid in every effort for the public good.

CHARLES H. OLMSTEAD.—A good-natured, affable and hospitable young man, who is not only highly respected for his sterling character and business acumen, but is looked up to as a natural leader, is Charles H. Olmstead, who took an active part in the organization and building up of certain social clubs for men in the oil-fields, and thereby benefited the lives of many a faithful worker. He was born at Syracuse, N. Y., on January 27, 1884, the son of Charles Olmstead, also a New Yorker, who was long engaged in farming near Syracuse, and who, after years of activity, retired with a comfortable competency and, what is equally of importance, with the good will and esteem of his fellowmen. Mrs. Olmstead, who before her marriage was Mary Bowman, and who was also born at Syracuse, passed away several years ago.

The second oldest in their family of five children, Charles H. was reared at Syracuse and educated in its excellent public schools. At the age of eighteen he left home and made his way to Flint, Mich., where he was employed at farming until 1906. In that year—the period of the earthquake and fire—he came to San Francisco and was soon engaged by the W. P. Fuller oil works. A year later he removed to Fresno and for ten or twelve months was in the service of the Santa Fe Railroad. Then he came to Coalinga; and being the kind of timber that far-seeing business folk seldom leave long unemployed, he engaged with the Associated Oil Company, on National 30, where he continued for a period of two years. His ability and close application to duty won for him a foremanship, but in 1910 he resigned, in order to assume still greater responsibility.

It was then that Mr. Olmstead entered the employ of the California Oilfields, Ltd., and when they sold their holdings to the Shell, he continued with the new concern. He was foreman of Section 27, and later was transferred in the same capacity to the W. K. lease. In 1916 he was again transferred as foreman of Sections 14, 10 and 15, for the Shell Company of California, and later his responsibilities were increased with the addition of Sections 22 and 24. This desirable place he has been filling with credit and ability ever since. He has also served as deputy sheriff for the past three years.

Mr. Olmstead is a member of the Red Men at Coalinga; he worked hard and unselfishly to establish the Oilfields Club, already referred to, and, as actively, in organizing Section 14 Social Club, of which he is president, and which has its own well-appointed and spacious club-rooms, a credit alike to members and patrons.



Chas. H. Johnson

A. S. VOTAW.—The successful man of today is found in every walk of life and in every clime. A man of this stamp is found in A. S. Votaw, of Navelencia, in Fresno County. He is a native of Michigan, where he was born in 1861, but was reared and educated in Iowa, where he lived until 1889, when he felt the call of the West and migrated to California, locating in Mariposa County where he was engaged in mining for a time, also likewise engaged in Placer County. He next moved to Morgan Hill, Santa Clara County, and carried on a mercantile business until 1909. Always on the lookout for something better, from 1909 until 1914, he was engaged in an agricultural colonization proposition in Mexico, but owing to the Mexican revolution he was forced to suspend operations.

Returning to California, he came to Fresno County and assumed the management of the Navelencia Farm and Town Company. The property consisted of 1,000 acres, located about twenty-six miles east from Fresno. Under his management the land was sold off in tracts of from ten to twenty, and even larger, acreages. The company was started in 1914 by A. S. Spaulding and improvements now seen in the little town include a fine hotel, two stores, packing house, four residences, and a fine school house where two teachers are employed. Mr. Votaw resigned his position in October, 1918, in order to give his attention to his ranching operations.

He installed an up-to-date water system with a large tank of 5,000 gallons' capacity, to supply water to the town. This is his own personal property. He has a ranch of thirty-two acres, devoted to figs and Emperor grapes, which is well watered by wells and pumping plants to insure an adequate supply of water for irrigation purposes. He has a beautiful home in Navelencia, which is presided over by his wife, whom he married in 1916, and who was, prior to her marriage to Mr. Votaw, Mrs. Mabel Macdonald. Mr. Votaw is a member of the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

MRS. LOUIS WAHL.—It is always a matter of particular satisfaction to learn that the good work begun by one who has passed on to his eternal reward and left a worthy record and influence behind him, is still being carried on by his widow. No more loyal and enthusiastic citizen may be found in Fresno County than Mrs. Wahl, who was born at Mesbach, Baden, Germany, the daughter of Anton Baudendistel, a baker there, and his wife, Marie (Glauser) Baudendistel. Both parents died in the locality in which they lived. There were six girls and three boys in the family; five daughters and one son are still living.

Mrs. Wahl, the second eldest in the family, was educated in the public schools of Baden, and soon after completing her education she left Germany for the New World. She had a sister living in San Francisco, and in 1871 joined her in the western metropolis. In 1875 she was married to Louis Wahl, a native of Württemberg, who had come to California in 1867. He had already enlisted in the regular army, thereby demonstrating his allegiance to the republic, had served in Alaska, and had been honorably discharged. Following his army experience he had remained in San Francisco, and there he met his future life-companion.

Five years after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Wahl purchased the twenty acres situated about four miles east of Fresno, where Mrs. Wahl now lives; and to their ranch they moved in 1885. When they first went there, the land was unimproved. They leveled it and set out vines, and by hard work made of it a productive vineyard, erecting a fine residence and constructing the necessary out buildings. This vineyard was called the Park Vineyard, from the fact that it had a beautiful park of trees which attracted the attention of all who passed. In front of the ranch was one of the largest cottonwood trees in the county.

After a very busy and fruitful life, Mr. Wahl died in 1896, in the fifty-sixth year of his age, respected, beloved, and mourned by a wide circle of

friends. He was a member of the Herman Sons. A plain, cordial, honest citizen, his influence was always found to be on the side of everything making for the good of society and the improvement of the community in which he had such an intense interest. Since Mr. Wahl's death, his widow has continued the operation of the ranch. She is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

As one of the oldest settlers in this part of the state, and probably the oldest in this immediate vicinity, Mrs. Wahl has seen much of the development of the county. From the beginning she had faith in Fresno County; and that faith she has never ceased to foster.

CHARLES E. BUTNER.—Fresno has never wanted for professional men of high ideals and wide vision, to build wisely and well for the long, long future. Among such gifted men is Charles E. Butner, the well-known architect, who was born in North Carolina on July 31, 1888, the son of T. M. and Emily (Worth) Butner. He graduated in 1911 from the University of Pennsylvania.

For a while Mr. Butner worked for the City of Philadelphia, replanning the new boulevard system, and then he went to New York to help work out the problems of the Russell Sage Foundation, the ten-million-dollar movement inaugurated by Mrs. Russell Sage, in 1907, who left that immense sum for "the improvement of social and living conditions in the United States of America." He worked on the Model Community at Forest Hills Gardens, Long Island, and both gave and received in the experience. After that, he spent a year and a half looking for an attractive location; and having seen many of the finest neighborhoods in the country, he chose Fresno and its environs, taking up his new residence in February, 1913. An influential Democrat, and always for Fresno and its best interests, Mr. Butner is secretary of the City Planning Commission.

As one of the firm of Glass & Butner, architects, Mr. Butner planned, among other edifices, the tentative public schools and the County Tubercular Hospital. He is also designing the new addition to the County Hospital. Besides, he has built many of the finest residences in the town. Among clubs with which he is affiliated may be mentioned the Architectural Society and the T-Square, both of Pennsylvania. Mr. Butner enlisted in July, 1917, in the air service as private, was commissioned lieutenant in December, 1917, and came out Captain, being honorably discharged at Montgomery, Ala., on March 10, 1919.

Subscribing to Presbyterian creeds, Mr. Butner, who is unmarried, also belongs to the Sunnyside Country Club and the Sequoia Club, while he is also a member of the Board of Governors of the University Club—an honor he prizes highly.

WILLIAM PERRY BEAUCHAMP.—A successful agriculturist who is making a specialty of scientific stock-raising, is William Perry Beauchamp, who was born at Harwood, in Vernon County, Mo., on September 27, 1883. His father, G. F. Beauchamp, was born in Indiana, and removed first to Nebraska and then to Missouri, where he became a farmer. In 1908 he came to Fresno County, and he now resides at Monmouth, where he is still busy with farming. His wife was Anna Adams before her marriage, and she was a native of Illinois. Eight children—seven daughters and one son—were born to this worthy couple; and William Perry was the second in the order of birth. He was brought up on a farm in Missouri, and there attended the public schools. When twenty-two and still in his home-region, he began to farm for himself. He made a specialty of raising stock, and soon demonstrated his capability.

While in Missouri, Mr. Beauchamp was married to Miss Eva Everman, also a native of that state; and in February, 1909, they came west to California and located in Selma. He leased a vineyard of eighty acres, which he operated for a year, when it was sold, and then he leased a peach orchard for a year. After that he rented eighty acres of vineyard and peach orchard, and

for five years he was unusually successful. Mr. Beauchamp next purchased his present place, a fine tract of ninety-two acres on Biola Avenue, in 1915. He raised alfalfa, grain and peaches, and set out a vineyard of thirty acres of Thompson seedless and Sultanas. He made many improvements and engaged in dairying and the raising of cattle and hogs. He allied himself with the California Associated Raisin Company, and helped to boost the raisin interests of the state.

Mr. and Mrs. Beauchamp have six children: Mildred, Bessie, Wilber, Harold, Edna and Irene. Mrs. Beauchamp is a member of the Christian Church, and Mr. Beauchamp belongs to the Woodmen of the World. The Beauchamp family enjoys deserved popularity.

WILBUR T. BOYD, M. D.—A member of Fresno County's medical fraternity since 1912, Dr. Boyd is now located in offices in the center of the county's population, Fresno, and is meeting with substantial success as a specialist in eye, ear, nose and throat diseases. Born in Bedford City, Bedford County, Va., September 6, 1875, he was raised there and attended the public schools for his early education. He then entered the University of West Virginia, at Morgantown, taking a course in pharmacy. He finished the course at the Ohio Northern University, at Ada, Ohio, graduated in pharmacy, and practised that profession in West Virginia a number of years.

Dr. Boyd came to California in 1902, and first located at Redlands, where he practised pharmacy two years. He then returned East and took a three-year course in medicine, in the Medical College of Virginia, at Richmond, Va. On completing his course, he returned to California, in 1910, and in 1911 graduated from the University of Southern California, with his degree of M. D. He then entered on the practice of his profession, remaining one year in Los Angeles, and in 1912 came to Fresno County, and practised for five years in Riverdale. Wishing to specialize in his work, the Doctor took a post-graduate course in eye, ear, nose and throat diseases at the University of California, at Berkeley, and at Stanford University, at Palo Alto, dividing his time between the two colleges.

On the completion of his postgraduate course of studies Dr. Boyd returned to Fresno, in August, 1917, and is now located in the Mason Building as an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist. He is meeting with success in his chosen work, is building up a good practice in Fresno, and stands high in his profession in the community. He operates at the Fresno Free Clinic, and also at the Burnett Sanitarium, and is a member of the American Medical Association, of the California Medical Association, and of the County Medical Society. Fraternally, he is a member of Riverdale Lodge, I. O. O. F., and of the Riverdale Lodge of Modern Woodmen of America.

Dr. Boyd's marriage united him with Josephine Orth, a native of Chicago, Ill.

OSCAR D. ATKINS.—In the senior member of the well-known firm of Rees and Atkins, Fresno possesses a man of ability and thorough experience in all branches of building operations in the person of Oscar D. Atkins.

Mr. Atkins was born in Lafayette, Ind., October 14, 1869, and brought up and educated there. He learned the carpenter trade and followed this line of occupation in his native state. In addition to this his fifteen years' experience in lumber yards and planing mill work in Indiana gave him additional knowledge to apply in his occupation as contractor, which he began at the early age of nineteen.

In September, 1912, he removed from Indiana to Fresno, Cal. The first year in his new home he was foreman for Fred Stone, the contractor. In the fall of 1913 he formed a partnership with Thomas J. Reese under the firm name of Reese and Atkins and this firm, since its inception, has been quite as successful as it has been busy, meeting with well merited recognition

from the citizens of Fresno. They have erected some of the finest residences in Fresno in the past four years, and have to their credit 114 homes and apartments ranging in value from \$1,800 to \$15,000; also thirty-six garages, a \$10,000 brick storehouse, all of the carpenter work in the Fresno Fair Grounds, the interior finish of the Liberty Market and the remodeling of the Cosmopolitan Hotel. They have done \$20,000 worth of repair work and putting in new fronts in store buildings. Noteworthy in the list of their very creditable work we would mention: "The Littlefield Apartments," a number of fine homes in the Alta Vista Tract, twenty-seven houses for Montgomery Thomas, five houses for S. W. Dietrich, six tank houses on different ranches in the country and the residence of N. M. Bangs on Van Ness Avenue. Mr. Atkins, who is an expert in designing artistic homes, drew the plans for the houses. He was one of the first men to buy lots and build in the "Alta Vista Tract" and has built three homes for himself and disposed of them. His new home on Huntington Drive is one of the most modern and artistic in Alta Vista.

Mr. Atkins has been twice married. His first wife, a native of Indiana, whose maiden name was Pearl Blake, died, leaving two children, namely: Ralph B., formerly book-keeper in the Farmers National Bank of Fresno, now a corporal in the United States Army Medical Department, and Goldie D., who is attending school in Indiana. His second wife, before her marriage, was Ida M. Sellers, also a native of the Hoosier state. She is a prominent member of the First Christian Church of Fresno. In his religious views Mr. Atkins is a Methodist, and is a member of the First Methodist Church of Fresno. His successful efforts in making Fresno the "city beautiful" will stand as an enduring monument to his name.

GIOVANNI MALANCA.—An Italian-American who has reflected, in his successful career, much credit on the land of his birth, is Giovanni Malanca, a native of Lucca, Italy, where he was born on January 1, 1871. He followed grape and fruit-raising until he came to America in 1893, and thoroughly learned the science of both viticulture and horticulture.

When he reached California, he located for a while in San Francisco, and for three years worked in vegetable gardens. In December, 1897, he arrived in Fresno, and here he rented sixty acres near Fowler. He lost nearly all his money in the venture, however, and was glad to sell out his crop of grapes for seventy-five dollars. Taking up his residence in Fresno, he entered into partnership with R. Tocchini, on G Street, where he engaged in the hotel and liquor business in October, 1898. After twelve years he sold out and bought the corner of Fresno and F Streets, where he erected a two-story brick hotel.

In 1906 Mr. Malanca returned to Italy and married Miss C. Genoviessi, by whom he has had three children, all of them born in Fresno and now students at the Catholic Sisters School. They are Libertina, Angelo and Geneva.

EDWARD O'NEAL.—When a man occupies a position of trust and responsibility by reason of merit, it is certainly more satisfactory than if he secured it by "pull." To have reached the top, knowing every step of the way gives a man confidence in himself, and this, in turn, creates confidence in him by those with whom he comes in contact. Mr. O'Neal is a good example of this.

He was born near Weatherford, in Parker County, Texas, March 4, 1879. He was raised on a farm and educated there. He worked on a farm until he was twenty years of age, when he started into the oil business, entering the employ of the Texas Oil Company at Gates, Texas. This company sent him to Tulsa, Okla., where he remained for a time. He became an expert oil man, filling different positions in the oil fields and in the refining departments. For three months he was with the Pierce-Fordyce Oil Company at Fort Worth, Texas. In 1911 he came to California and went to work for the



C. Milla
Ida Milla

Producers' Transportation Company, at San Luis Obispo, where he remained for two years. He started in as pipeman, soon became assistant foreman, and later district foreman. In 1913 he moved to Coalinga, where he was with the same company in the oil fields, becoming district foreman in the Coalinga fields.

In March, 1918, Mr. O'Neal was appointed city marshal and tax collector for Coalinga. To this appointment he is giving the same careful attention that has characterized all his work. He is fearless in the discharge of his duties as a peace officer. He has made some very important arrests, at one time apprehending a diamond thief who had stolen in Coalinga, recovering all the diamonds. At another time, when the Wallace Hardware Store was robbed, Mr. O'Neal succeeded in capturing the thief. A crazy man who was running amuck in Coalinga, was taken in tow, and is now in the Fresno County jail. This is considered one of the most important arrests that he has made, as it turned out that the man is a German spy. Because of his activity in the discharge of his duties, Mr. O'Neal is regarded as the right man in the right place, and has many friends in Coalinga and vicinity. He was made a Mason in Oak Cliff, Texas, and is a member of the Oil Workers' Union.

He was married to Ada Thompson, of Texas, and they have four daughters: Lena Mae; Pauline; Pearl; and Ella. In the fall of 1918 Mr. O'Neal resigned his position as city marshal to resume his work in the oil fields.

CAESAR MILLA.—The head of the distilling department of the great Mattevista Winery, situated seven miles southeast of Fresno, Caesar Milla, the subject of this sketch, was born November 1, 1875, in Canton Ticino, Switzerland, a son of Joseph and Filomina (Mattei) Milla, the parents of seven children, Caesar being the eldest. The mother passed away in 1913, in Switzerland; the father still resides there and has reached the age of seventy-eight years.

Caesar Milla was reared in his native land until he was fifteen years of age, when he emigrated to the United States, coming directly to the Mattevista Winery, which is owned and has been developed by his uncle, Andrew Mattei, the millionaire viticulturist and wine-manufacturer. Caesar Milla was employed by his uncle in the winery where, by hard work and intelligent efforts, he soon gained a knowledge of the business and was promoted from one department to another, and in course of time mastered the business, from the planting of the vines to the bottling, shipping, and selling of the wines. So well did he grasp the entire business that he became the superintendent of the winery and held this responsible post until 1917, when his cousin, Andrew Mattei, Jr., was made superintendent, and Caesar Milla became the head of the distilling department. The parents of Caesar Milla being in modest circumstances, and having a large family to support, Caesar continued to aid them financially and for twenty years sent his earnings back to his mother to help support the family.

In 1908, Mr. Milla purchased a ranch of forty acres, twenty of which are devoted to wine grapes and the rest to raisins; and the place is further improved by a beautiful bungalow, which he built in 1917. In 1910, Caesar Milla was united in marriage with Mrs. P. Milla, the widow of his brother, her maiden name having been Ida Poletti, a native of Switzerland. Mr. and Mrs. Milla are the happy parents of two children: Florence, and Caesar, Jr. Mrs. Milla had one child by her first husband, P. Milla, a daughter named Lena.

Mr. and Mrs. Milla are members of the Catholic Church at Fresno, and in politics he supports the Republican ticket. Mr. Milla is a man of great executive ability and sound business judgment, and is making a success of his forty-acre vineyard, which he operates in addition to his responsible position at the winery. Mr. and Mrs. Milla are highly respected in their community where they enjoy a large circle of friends.

LOUIS SCHOLLER.—Both as a business man and as a rancher and horticulturist, Louis Scholler has been identified with the growth of Fresno, city and county, and is well known in Central California as a progressive, popular man of affairs. Born in Bavaria, Germany, October 4, 1864, he attended the schools of his native country, and there learned to read the English language. Even when a mere youth, he desired to make the most of his opportunities, and crossed the sea to try his fortunes in a newer country, in 1883. Upon arrival, he came direct to California, settling in San Francisco, where he engaged in the manufacture of soap and toilet waters. He later went to British Columbia under contract with the British Columbia Soap Works to manufacture soap for that concern. In 1889 Mr. Scholler came to Fresno, and has been very active in business affairs ever since. Besides his many business interests, Mr. Scholler has aided in the agricultural development of the county. He is the owner of a twenty-two-acre orange grove at Lemon Cove, that famous orange belt where the early varieties are grown; and he also owns a 120-acre dairy and stock ranch, six miles west of Fresno. In partnership with O. L. Everts and D. S. Ewing he built and owns a modern brick garage on the corner of Stanislaus and I Streets, Fresno, and altogether, has taken an active part in the rapid growth of Fresno and Fresno County. A public-spirited citizen, he has been to the fore in all movements for the advancement of community interests, and has given both of his time and substantial aid to the furthering of such projects. Mr. Scholler is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Fresno, the Commercial Club, and of Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. Elks.

E. I. BABER.—One of the most important of local industries, the Eisen Vineyard, as well as the very interesting history of its founder, are recalled by the life sketch of E. I. Baber, the well-known viticulturist and manager of the vineyard. He was born in London, England, in 1854, the son of a business man, Henry Baber, who had married Mary Benjamin. E. I. was educated in the world's metropolis at the College of Preceptors. His preparation was thorough, as is typical with British youth, and on completing his studies, he assisted his father in trade. England, commercially speaking, failed, however, to attract him long; and on January 5, 1872, he went to South Africa, where he spent some time in the interior as a representative for a Cape Town firm. Later he went to the diamond fields at Kimberley and, as a result, made two or three trips back to London, trading in diamonds.

While on his last visit to the mother country, he intended to return to South Africa, but during an interview with an aunt, in Dublin, he determined to change his plans and go to the United States instead. He arrived in New York in 1875 and was naturally captivated with harbor and town, but he also heard so much of California that he soon decided to push on to the extreme West. By August, therefore, he had arrived in San Francisco and shortly went to Nevada City, where he clerked in a hotel for eight months; then he returned to San Francisco where he met Francis Eisen, in the office of whose flour-mill he later found employment.

Having taken a strong fancy to Mr. Baber, Mr. Eisen induced him to come to Fresno to take charge of his landed holdings; and October, 1880, found him in Fresno and established in his new quarters. The opportunity, as he soon learned, was full of promise, for Mr. Eisen had started improvements here as early as 1872, when he experimented with tobacco and cotton. He grew them both successfully at the time, but the railroad rates then prevailing were prohibitive and he was compelled to turn to other lines. He built a headgate at a dam he had constructed on Fancher Creek on the Hobbler ranch to bring water in a detour to his ranch for irrigating his vineyard, which he commenced planting in 1872, the first vineyard of the county. He also put in a turbine and the power was used to run the machinery and crushers at his winery, for four years, when, more power being required, they installed



John Desl



Marie Desl.

a steam plant. They propagate their own vines, and now the vineyard has more than thirty different varieties grafted onto wild stock.

Mr. Eisen is rightly credited with being the founder of the vineyards in this vicinity, for, by his experiments, he demonstrated the commercial possibility of grape-growing on this soil. When he started to plant grapes, he was ridiculed but he knew what he was about, and soon showed the doubting Thomases that he could succeed. It was his pioneer enterprise, therefore, that established the wine-industry here.

It was Mr. Eisen, also, who gave such an impetus to the raisin industry, although in this his part was accidental. In 1878 it had become too late to pick some of the grapes and they dried on the vines. Seeing that they were in good condition, however, Mr. Eisen picked them, after which he shipped them to Goldburg & Bowen, San Francisco. There they attracted much admiration, and some of them even found their way back to Fresno stores. Twenty acres of muscats yielded, for several years, an average of ten tons green to the acre, and have sold to a Boston firm as raisins unassorted, for as high as 6% cents per pound. The vineyard has been planted and replanted, and 500 acres are now devoted to shipping and wine grapes. Naturally, the Eisen Vineyard has a large winery, with a storage capacity of nearly one million gallons, and fermenting capacity of about twice that amount. It is one of the largest wineries in Fresno County.

The highly revered founder of this notable institution, as well as his estimable wife, are both dead, but his children have incorporated it as the Eisen Vineyard Company, and under that name they continue the business. In many ways, Mr. Eisen was a benefactor to Fresno County, and when he died, about 1893, Central California sustained a loss more and more apparent as the years have gone by.

Mr. Baber is popular socially, especially in the circles of the Elks and the B'nai B'rith; and numerous friends esteem him as a man who, given a great trust, has proven his ability and worth.

JOHN OED.—Having given the best years of his life to the building up of the fruit industry in California, it is natural that John Oed should be interested, not only in the general development of agriculture here, and in viticulture, with which he has had most to do, but in the preservation of a record of historic events, and the collation and editing of the Golden State's annals. In this his interest is shared by his good wife, who has also helped to make California history; for the liberal-minded and large-hearted couple are truly one, and as a well-mated pair enjoy the esteem and the good-will of all.

Mr. Oed was born in Bavaria, Germany, on January 23, 1853, where he attended the excellent public schools, and in 1872, or when he was nineteen, he came to the United States. His first two years here were spent in Chicago; but attractive as was that city, particularly on account of his fellow countrymen there, in 1874 he moved further west and reached Mendocino County, Cal. He found work at Cuffey's Cove and for some time was busy at lumbering.

In 1877 he came to Fresno County and located in Central Colony, where he bought forty acres of raw land and began improvements; but the land company did not complete their water system and he let the land go back. Later he bought 160 acres from the Southern Pacific Railroad, the land being east of Malaga and costing seven and one-half dollars per acre, and this he irrigated by digging ditches. He was a stockholder in the Fowler Switch ditch which furnished the settlers with water, later, however, he obtained water from the Church system. He leveled the land, and set out orchards, vineyards and alfalfa. After a while he sold off eighty acres and continued improvements. Then he bought sixty acres more and had 140 acres, mostly in vines.

In former days, raisins commanded only a very low price, from one to one and a half cents a pound, and business in that field was very discouraging; but he became interested in the first cooperative association started in Malaga, and known as the Malaga Cooperative Raisin Association, and he has been a member of all the other cooperative societies since. In the early days, too, when times were hard and he hadn't yet got nicely started, he would go to Puget Sound and work in the shipyards, and so earn money with which to pay his interest, and to tide him over. He finally sold forty acres, then forty acres more, and seven years ago he sold the balance, or sixty acres, and moved into Fresno, where he owns a fine residence that he built at 130 North Angus Street.

Mr. Oed was married at Fresno, in 1888, to Mrs. Marie (Roth) Bacher, a native of Wuertemberg, Germany, who came to Hartford, Conn., in 1872, and out to Fresno six years later. She belongs to the Emanuel Lutheran Church in Fresno. Mr. Oed is a member of Herman's Sons, and is an officer of that flourishing organization. In politics he is an independent and seeks to vote for the best men and the best measures.

CHRIS KASTNER.—A successful young business man, who is one of the partners in the Central Market at Clovis is Chris Kastner. He was born September 12, 1878, at Callicoon, Sullivan County, N. Y. His father was a farmer, Christian Kastner, who was born in Germany. Christian came to this country, in company with his parents, landing at New York in 1845, they having had the good sense to get out of that troubled land before the disastrous revolution; and reaching the interior of the Empire State, the elder Kastner settled at Callicoon. The father is still living, at the ripe age of eighty-four. He married Caroline Wagner, a native of Cumberland County, N. Y., and a most estimable woman, who rounded out her earthly career in 1904. She was the mother of twelve children, eight of whom are still living.

Born the fourth youngest, Chris was bought up on his father's farm, and when about sixteen years of age, he set out for himself. He was apprenticed to a butcher in Liberty, N. Y., and there learned his trade. At the end of two years, he came to California; and in 1898 was plying his trade in San Francisco at the market of Wilfert Brothers. He remained there three years, profiting in every way by his life in the bustling Pacific city.

He had set his gaze on Clovis, however, and when the opportunity was presented to come here and work for Petersen Brothers, he gladly availed himself of it, and for three years made a success in that establishment. Circumstances then induced him to return to New York for a three-months' visit, and when he came West again, he stopped awhile at Reno, Nev. Then he went to Spokane, where he was for three years in business for himself; and he sold out, only to enable him to return to his first choice—Clovis. Having bought a third interest with Hemmingsen & Neilsen in the Clovis Central Market, he continued as a minor partner until he bought out Mr. Hemmingsen, when the firm became Neilsen & Kastner; but in September, 1917, Mr. Kastner's former employer, Petersen, bought out Neilsen's interest, and then the firm became Petersen & Kastner.

As a part of their fine equipment, these enterprising merchants have three acres one mile from Clovis, where are situated their slaughter-houses and cold-storage plant, with a two-ton ice machine. Mr. Kastner is also interested in fig-culture, of which he has twenty acres, east of Clovis.

During his residence at Clovis, Mr. Kastner was married to Miss Georgia Bell, a native daughter of Selma, and a graduate of the excellent high school there, and also of Heald's Business College at Fresno. Their marriage has proven a happy one, and they have one child, Elizabeth. Mr. Kastner is a popular member of the I. O. O. F., Lodge No. 139, Clovis, where he was Noble Grand for two years. He was also a member of the Encampment and Canton at Reno, where he served as Lieutenant. He is a Republican, but when it comes to local issues, he lays aside party politics.

GEORGIA EMILY THOMPSON, M. D.—The medical profession of Fresno, has among its representatives, Dr. Georgia Emily Thompson, a physician and surgeon of acknowledged ability and the only woman in Fresno, who is conducting the practice of medicine and surgery, alone. Dr. Thompson is a native of New York state and a descendant of an old and honorable family of the Empire State, two of whose members have contributed to the annals of American history; her great grandfather having been color bearer at Yorktown, the place made notable in American history by the surrender of General Cornwallis to Gen. George Washington, in 1781; her father, George W. Thompson, served in the Fiftieth New York Engineers, from 1861 to 1865, in the Civil War. Dr. Georgia Thompson's school days were divided between Colorado and California. She attended the public schools of Denver, and while a child passed many of her winters in Southern California. After two years at Denver University she entered Leland Stanford, Jr., University, where she was graduated in 1910 with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and in 1914 from the same institution she received her degree of M. D. Dr. Thompson first started the practice of her profession in San Francisco, but in 1916 opened an office in Fresno, continuing her practice of medicine and surgery.

JAMES B. RANDRUP.—A very energetic and successful young man, who has improved many acres, thus contributing materially to the development of Fresno County, and who has great faith in the future of Central California, is James B. Randrup, who arrived here in the late nineties. He was born at Dalby, Jylland, Denmark, on March 29, 1879, the son of Jorgen Sorensen Randrup, a farmer who owned a small place and served in the Danish army. He was in the thick of the battles during the Danish-Prussian War, and was crippled from exposure. After the war he followed farming until he died, aged nearly eighty years. Mrs. Randrup, who was Anna Vindfeldt before her marriage, died in 1916, the mother of eight children: J. B., who died in 1879 when he was eight years of age; George, a rancher in Fresno County; Marie, who is Mrs. Severin of Fresno; Johanna, who died when she was sixteen; James B., the subject of this review; Margaret, who is Mrs. Hansen of Fresno; and Peter and Jorgen, who are in Denmark.

Brought up on a farm, James B. attended the public schools, and from his boyhood was set to work to help make up for his father being crippled in the war. He drove a team and in 1898, when he had passed his eighteenth year, he left Denmark for New York. And soon thereafter he came to Fresno, arriving in May.

Mr. Randrup immediately went to work on a farm for Andrew Iversen, on White's Bridge road and at the end of two years and two months, he engaged for four months in harvesting in the fall of 1900. Then, in partnership with Mads Madsen, he bought a farm outfit and leased land from Simpson brothers on Dry Creek, where he put in two crops. The crops were fair but on account of low prices they did not make any money. Then Mr. Madsen died, and the partnership was dissolved. He next leased a grain-farm on Dry Creek from D. C. Sample, and raised grain for two years. He then made a contract with Mr. Sample to improve some land for him in Empire district, west of Fresno. He moved onto it and improved 160 acres of raw land. He leveled and checked it, and sowed it to alfalfa, and he got sixty acres for his share. He had put in a pumping-plant, the first in that section, and he continued to raise alfalfa, which he sold in Fresno.

In 1914, Mr. Randrup sold this land, and then came to his present place, leasing 160 acres from D. C. Sample. He plowed it all up, leveled and checked it, and put in eighty acres to alfalfa. In the spring of 1918, however, he purchased from Mr. Sample the 160 acres he had improved. He has improved the balance to alfalfa, set out a vineyard and has a neat dairy of fifty-six cows. He has an Empire milking machine, and uses a gasoline engine for power, in the milking. Although the ranch is under the ditch, he has also

sunk a well and installed an electric pumping-plant, for irrigating the ranch. This ranch is located about eleven miles northwest of Fresno, in the Houghton district. Mr. Randrup belongs to the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association, and is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association.

Mr. Randrup was twice married. His first wife was Miss Hattie Miller before her marriage, and she was born at Weedville, Cal. She died on this place on October 1, 1914, the mother of four children: Frances, Margaret, Raymond and Hattie. The second marriage took place at Fresno, in July, 1916, when the bride was Mrs. Lena (Ostergaard) Tillesen, of Jylland, Denmark. She had already had one child by her first marriage, Esther Tillesen, and a child, Helen, has been born of this union. The family is highly esteemed in the community. Mr. Randrup is a member of the Danish Brotherhood, and there, as well as in the great outside world, he has many friends.

WARREN BRUCE.—The down-east Yankee traits of character distinguished by indomitable energy and thrift, so typical of the New England boy, is well represented in Warren Bruce, born in Augusta, Maine, November 8, 1853. He received a public school education, and as a young man engaged in farming near Togus, Maine. He sold his farm and spent one winter in the lumber woods at Somerville, Maine, then entered the employ of Allen Lambard at Augusta, Maine, looking after his farm and stable of fine horses. After five years' service in this capacity he was appointed deputy city marshal of Augusta. He made a very popular and efficient officer and was the only Democrat in the employ of the city, which was under Republican rule. He served on the force for twelve years and was very successful in handling the rough element. Six years he served as constable in Ward Six, being elected by a large majority—a Democrat in a Republican ward. He was in partnership with his brother W. H. Bruce in the hardware, hay, grain and grocery business. He sold his interests to Benjamin F. Parrott and in 1905 left for Fresno, Cal., where he arrived in May. He became an employee of the Automobile Hardware and Implement Company, of Visalia, Tulare County, Cal., invested heavily in the company and losing all when they failed, was obliged to start from the bottom rung of the ladder again. He bought a ten-acre ranch near Visalia which he improved, setting it to loganberries, peaches, etc., and sold the place at a good profit. He then went to Lemon Cove and bought forty acres of unimproved land at sixty dollars per acre upon which he sunk a well, built a house and greatly improved it in many other ways, afterward selling it for \$6,000. He next purchased a twenty-acre ranch two and one-half miles west of Caruthers, Fresno County, upon which he sunk two ten-inch wells, installed a pumping plant, planted fifteen acres of it to alfalfa, set out 460 shade trees and two and one-half acres of Thompson seedless grape vines and built a fine new home. He lived on the place five years and in that time made it one of the show places of the district. It was well equipped with chicken houses, engine house, cattle corral, and stocked with 100 hogs. He sold the place at a good profit and as part payment took a cottage at 3077 Nevada Street, Fresno. He improved this place, painted and repaired the house and exchanged the property for his present five-acre ranch, two miles from Fresno, on Fruit Avenue. Since coming to California he has taken up carpenter work and in his spare time has been busy at his trade. He worked on the New Humboldt Bank Building and other large jobs in San Francisco after the fire, and one season had charge of a steam engine on a threshing machine in Tulare County. He helped build the new high school in Tulare, Tulare County, and was engaged in boring for oil in Lost Hills district, Kern County. He assisted in the construction of three school houses in Porterville, Tulare County, and also had charge of the ranch at Trimmer Springs one season.

He has overcome all obstacles encountered on the road that leads to success and is noted for good judgment in the practical affairs of life.

ANTHONY G. ROSE.—Anthony G. Rose was reared in Boston, Mass., attending school there and at Cambridge. In 1870 he came via the Isthmus of Panama to San Mateo County, Cal., with his parents, and finished his education in the high school and military academy at San Leandro, Alameda County, Cal. In 1889, at the age of seventeen, he became an apprentice to the machinist's trade, with the H. W. Rice Machine Works, and finished with the San Francisco Tool Company, of San Francisco. He followed the trade in the bay cities, and then entered the Marine Service on San Francisco Bay and the Sacramento River, serving on the tugboat Harriett, owned by the Eaton Company, of San Francisco, receiving his license of Marine Engineer. He came of a family of seafaring men, and so took kindly to that life. Mr. Rose later gave up marine work and took up stationary engineering, and in 1892 was sent to Fresno by the H. W. Rice Company to repair a straw burner threshing machine manufactured by the company. He liked this section so much on that first visit that he decided to settle here, and secured work with the James Porteous Company in their machine shop.

In 1892 Mr. Rose entered the employ of the Fresno Gas & Electric Company as chief engineer for two years, resigning his position to enter the employ of the San Joaquin Light & Power Company and the Fresno City Water Company, owned and controlled by the same management. He has been chief engineer of the water company since he came with them in July, 1894, and he also has charge of the machine shop and garages for the company, with fifty men immediately under him, and 165 automobiles, scattered throughout ten counties in the state. He is also a specialist on pumps, and has charge of all their repair work.

The marriage of Mr. Rose united him with Mary Pimental, a native Californian, born in Calaveras County, and three children have been born to them: Ida, wife of W. T. Clement of Oakland; Jessie C., of Fresno; and Marie, a graduate of the Fresno Normal School and teacher in Calwa school district. Mr. Rose has traded some in Fresno real estate, and erected three houses in the city. In early days he rented 145 acres of alfalfa land and operated the acreage for three years. Fraternally, he is a member of Yosemite Lodge, No. 343, I. O. O. F., and of The Fraternal Brotherhood, Lodge No. 91, of Fresno. He is also a member of the National Association of Stationary Engineers, formerly the Pacific Coast Stationary Engineers.

PAUL T. STANGE.—The junior member of the firm of Hansen Construction Company, Paul T. Stange has reached an assured position in life through his own efforts and individuality. Born in Berlin, Germany, in 1879, he is the son of Godfrey and Ann (Teal) Stange, both natives of Germany, the father is now deceased. In 1883 Godfrey Stange brought his family to the United States, and located in Neillsville, Clark County, Wis., and there Paul T. was educated in the public schools, and later learned the trade of carpenter.

In 1899 he came with his father to Fresno, to work on the construction of the Fresno Brewery, and after its completion he followed carpentering and mill work in Oakland. In 1906, after the earthquake and fire in San Francisco, Mr. Stange returned to Fresno and entered the employ of H. A. Hansen, contractor and builder, as foreman, and later did the drawing and estimating for the firm, having taken a course in mechanical and architectural drawing with the International Correspondence School. He drew the plans for the Kern-Kay Hotel, the Hotel Tulare; Salvation Army Building; Lauritzen Implement Building; also many fine residences in Fresno. In 1914, on the death of Mr. Hansen, Mr. Stange, and Thomas M. Paulson took over the business and operate it under the firm name of Hansen Construction Company. Among other work they erected the Hotel Mayer; the Eaden Flats; the warehouse for the United Warehouse Company; Prescott's Garage; residence for J. Edward Prescott, and the F. W. Wood home; the Mission Episcopal Church, on Van Ness Avenue, and the Peach Growers warehouse, at Reedley.

The marriage of Mr. Stange, which occurred in Fresno, May 31, 1913, united him with Miss Minnie Kostenbader, a native of Nazareth, Northampton County, Pa., a descendant of an old Pennsylvania family, and two children have been born to them: Paul T., Jr., and Henrietta Ann.

Mr. Stange was a member of the California National Guard for four years, and served as corporal of Company K of Fresno. He was a crack shot and won a medal as a "Distinguished Marksman." His recreation hobby is hunting and fishing, and for a wedding trip, in 1913, he took his wife into the Sierras for two months, hunting, fishing and exploring the mountain fastness, taking pictures enroute. They went through into the Yosemite Valley, and across Iron Mountain, greatly enjoying the beauties of nature. Mr. Stange indulges in a hunting and fishing trip each year, returning to his business duties with renewed vigor and enthusiasm. He purchased lots on the corner of Monterey and M Streets, and has erected three houses upon the property, which he now owns. Fraternally he is a member of Fresno Lodge No. 343, I. O. O. F.

GUY THOMAS SMOOT.—An enterprising young man engaged in the mercantile and hotel business at Mendota, Guy Thomas Smoot was born in Burlington, Iowa, October 6, 1888. His father, Edward Price Smoot, was a native of Palmyra, Mo., and moved to Burlington, Iowa, where he was a blacksmith. He became associated with McLaughlin Brothers of Columbus, Ohio, and engaged in introducing imported full-blooded Percheron, Norman and Belgium horses into Iowa and the Middle West, selling them at \$1,500 to \$7,000 each. In this business he was successfully engaged for ten years. He now lives retired in Storm Lake, Iowa. Grandfather Thomas Price Smoot was a Southerner, a blacksmith at Palmyra, Mo., and served in the Confederate Army in the Civil War. Mr. Smoot's Great-great-grandfather Smoot served in the Revolutionary War. The mother of our subject was Sarah Young, a native of Palmyra, Mo., and a descendant of an old Southern family. She died in early life, leaving four sons and one daughter.

Guy Thomas Smoot, the eldest in his parents' family, was reared in Burlington and educated in the grammar and high schools. At the age of seventeen, in February, 1906, he enlisted in the United States Navy. Coming to San Francisco, he served on the West Virginia, the flag-ship of the Pacific Fleet, as a yeoman, for three years and nine months, till he was honorably discharged, in October, 1909. He liked California and concluded to cast in his lot here. Entering the employ of the Associated Pipe Line Company, he came to Mendota headquarters in the fall of 1909, his work taking him from McKittrick to San Francisco, as inspector, foreman and book-keeper.

Mr. Smoot was married in Mendota in 1914 to Miss Marie Arnaudon, the youngest child of A. J. Arnaudon, the pioneer of Mendota, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. At the time of his marriage he resigned his position with the Associated Pipe Line Company to engage in mercantile and hotel business in Mendota. He leased the Arnaudon Hotel and store, and he and his wife continue the business under the old name of A. J. Arnaudon.

In August, 1917, Mr. Smoot enlisted in the United States Navy for the World War and was assigned to the Naval Air Station at San Diego as chief yeoman, continuing there except for short periods when he was detailed to San Pedro and to the Mare Island Navy Yard. He was mustered out on February 27, 1919, and returned to his business, his wife meantime having managed both store and hotel during his service in his country's cause. In their store they carry a well-selected line of general merchandise, and are having a large and successful trade.

In national politics Mr. Smoot is a Democrat. He was appointed postmaster at Mendota in 1914, to succeed A. J. Arnaudon, resigned, and held the position till he enlisted. When he resigned, Mrs. Smoot was appointed his successor, and she still holds the appointment. Mr. Smoot is an active member of Sunset Lodge, No. 193, Knights of Pythias, in Mendota.



Mr + Mrs Conrad Bopp

CONRAD BOPP.—To make a success in surroundings totally different from the early environment requires character and resourcefulness. Among those who have accomplished this in Fresno County is Conrad Bopp, a native of Samara, Russia, where he was born February 8, 1864, a son of Fred Bopp and Marie (Krumbeirg) Bopp. The father, a farmer in the old country, passed away there in 1867; the mother came to Fresno in 1887 and made her home here with her son, Conrad, until her death, in 1911, aged eighty-four years.

The youngest in a family of eight children born to his parents, all of whom are now living, Conrad Bopp was brought up on the home farm in Russia, and there his mother was engaged in horticulture and gardening, so from a boy he learned to care for trees and raise vegetables. His education he received in the public schools of his native town. In 1886 he entered the Russian army in the infantry, and was stationed at Sebastopol for three years and eight months as an orderly. On being mustered out, in 1890, he came from there to the United States and located in Fresno.

Here the young man went to work in the Craycroft brickyards, and continued with them for eleven years. At the end of that time he resigned and engaged in ranching; he first rented vineyards in Arizona Colony and ran a sixty-one-acre vineyard for three years. He then bought his present ranch of twenty acres on McNeil Avenue, and set to work to improve the property. He built his residence and other buildings; set out a vineyard and orchards, raising Thompson and muscat grapes, and peaches; he later added another twenty acres to his holdings, one-eighth of a mile south of his original ranch, and here he has a fine peach orchard, with two acres in Thompson grapes, the whole property an example of what industry and thrift can accomplish.

The marriage of Mr. Bopp occurred in Fresno, October 2, 1893, and united him with Miss Louisa Schebelhut, also a native of Samara, Russia, and a daughter of Conrad and Marie K. (Weibert) Schebelhut, farmer folk. When they retired they came to Fresno where the mother died May 9, 1919, in Dinuba, while the father still resides there. Mrs. Bopp came to Fresno in January, 1892. Of their marriage ten children are living to carry on the development work started by their parents: Conrad, foreman for the San Joaquin Bakery in Fresno; Louisa, who is Mrs. Williams of Fresno; Edward, in overseas service in the United States Army; Katrina and Lena, of Fresno; and Rosa, Alex, Marie, Benjamin, and Martha, at home.

With his family, Mr. Bopp is a member of the Church of God, having been active in its organization in Fresno. He has always been a Bible student, was duly ordained an Elder, and was the first Elder to preside over the German Congregation, a place he filled ably for seven years, and he is also a member of the board of trustees. He is a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and also of the California Associated Raisin Company. In the general upbuilding he does his share and is counted a man of worth in the community.

ERICH BERNDT.—One of the most energetic, successful and rising real estate men of Fresno, who has looked with faith from the start on Central California is Erich Berndt, popularly known as Harry, an enthusiastic advocate and defender of union labor. He was born in Chicago, Ill., on November 4, 1886, and as a lad attended the public schools of the great lakes metropolis. When only thirteen he began to shift for himself, and for over fifteen years followed different lines of work through the Middle West. If the returns were not always remunerative, there was no doubt as to the added experience; so that when he had thus run the gauntlet of much that might have discouraged the faint-hearted, he was more than ever a man, able to cope with men and affairs.

In 1914, drawn hither by the Panama-Pacific Exposition, Mr. Berndt came to San Francisco; and while touring the state, had the good fortune to perceive the splendid future of California. Instead of returning east, he located in Fresno County; and in 1915 he removed to Sanger, where he bought

ten acres of land, to which purchase he later added another ten acres. When he had subdivided and further improved this, he called it the Berndt Tract; and the 178 lots have since sold rapidly. By this stroke of singular enterprise, Mr. Berndt awoke Sanger to a reasonable appreciation of itself and the possibilities within it. He has formed "The Action Realty Company," which has been doing considerable business. This company, for example, consummated the sale of the Gregory Place at Parlier for \$124,500, a price complimentary but by no means too high and being the first high price paid since advance of prices. There are sixty acres of Thompson seedless grapes and sixty acres of muscats, and the estate produces yearly about \$40,000 worth of fruit. A second property sold by this firm for a record price—\$145,000—was the Bars-tow Colony, consisting of 160 acres of Thompson seedless grapes.

Some years ago Mr. Berndt married Rosie Greenewald, an attractive lady of Chicago. He has erected a set of bungalows on his subdivision in Sanger. He belongs to the Eagles, the Elks and the Red Men, and is justly popular in local society.

As an uncompromising advocate of union labor, Mr. Berndt has served as a member of labor clubs, a member of their executive boards, and a delegate to the convention of the unions. He has assisted, in particular, in entertaining the local labor unions, and while serving on their committees on entertainment has charged himself with the natural duty of providing for his fellows the best in the way of edifying and uplifting diversion and instruction that labor, time and money could devise and afford. Every town, especially in a state so much in the forming as is California, and so in need of men of faith and action suited to their confidence, is richer for the coming and settling within it of just such captains of enterprise as Harry Berndt, and no one will begrudge him a square inch or a penny of his prosperity, for he is the kind who leads others on to the road to fortune and shares with them when he has struck "oil" himself.

DANIEL C. McLAUGHLIN.—The early life of the very efficient and worthy book-keeper and cashier of the California Associated Raisin Company, Daniel C. McLaughlin, a native of England, is interwoven with the romance of the sea, for he was born while his mother, who before her marriage was Hannah Corbett, was on a voyage with her husband, Captain Daniel McLaughlin, a sea captain who followed the calling of the sea for many years, and made forty-two trips around the Horn to California. His first trip to San Francisco in the year 1851, was financially a very profitable one, for he arrived in that city just after the fire of that memorable year which practically destroyed nearly all the houses in the city, leaving the inhabitants without food and lumber. He sold his cargo of flour for fifty dollars a bafrel and the lumber at a high figure.

From the age of three months, Daniel C. was brought up in New England, at Malden, Mass., where he also received his education. In November, 1887, he arrived at San Francisco with his parents on his father's full rigged ship, "Glory of the Sea," on her last trip around the Horn. She was built in New England and was 260 feet long and forty-four feet in the beam, with a carrying capacity of 3,300 tons. This ship is still in existence, having been dismantled, and is now used in Northern Pacific waters as a floating salmon cannery.

Captain Daniel McLaughlin, in 1883, went to Oleander, Fresno County, where he purchased forty acres of land and planted a vineyard, at one time owning 100 acres there. He lived on the place ten years and returned east, to New Brunswick, where he died, leaving four children, namely: John W.; Daniel C.; Mrs. J. L. Ashley, all of Fresno, and Mrs. J. B. Weeks, of Malden, Mass.

For two years after arriving in Fresno, Daniel C. worked on his father's ranch, afterward going to work for the Curtis Fruit Company at Oleander, remaining with them eight years. L. F. Curtis of Bridgeport, Conn., was

president of the company, and the company was noted for being the first to use a machine for stemming raisins. Charles L. North was the inventor of the machine. After the Curtis plant was destroyed by fire, Mr. McLaughlin was in the employ of the Home Packing Company of Fresno for one year, and later with the J. H. Leslie Company and the J. B. Inderrieden Company. Mr. McLaughlin has been connected with the raisin industry nearly all his life except the twelve years he was in the grocery business on Blackstone Avenue, Fresno. In 1916 he entered the employ of the California Associated Raisin Company, where he is at present. He has done much in contributing to the advancement of Fresno's civic growth, among his building enterprises being the block on Blackstone Avenue and his residence.

He is the father of two children, Marcus, now in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and Elizabeth F. Fraternally, he is a Yeoman and a member of the Woodmen of the World.

FREDERICK KARL VOGEL.—The superintendent of the Amity Oil Company, Frederick K. Vogel, was born in Golgowitz, Silesia, Germany, November 2, 1882. He removed with his parents when a child to Lissa, Posen, where he grew up, receiving his education in the local schools. When fourteen years of age he was apprenticed at the woodturner's trade, and afterwards he traveled as journeyman in Germany until 1903, when he migrated to England, working at his trade in London. In 1904 he came to Canada, and there followed his trade until, during the same year, he made his way to Vancouver, B. C. In 1905 he went to Seward, Alaska, where he remained till the spring of 1906, and then came to San Francisco, Cal. After working at his trade for two years, he came to the Santa Maria oil fields in 1908. He entered the employ of H. A. Rispin and learned the oil business from the bottom up. After remaining here for two years he located at Lost Hills, in the employ of the same people, being placed in charge of operations, and continued in that capacity for a period of two years. In April, 1912, he came to Coalinga as superintendent of the Amity Oil Company. They own and operate on forty acres, Section 1, 20, 14—formerly the Fresno-San Francisco Oil Company's property—and have eight producing wells.

Mr. Vogel is interested in viticulture and owns twenty acres at Biola that he is arranging to set to Thompson seedless vines. Mr. Vogel took out his naturalization papers in 1906 and became a citizen of the United States in 1911. Politically, he is a Republican.

REV. AUGUST SPOMER.—A minister in the Church of God in Christ, and a horticulturist who has done something definite and permanent to help build up Central California, the Reverend August Spomer has made a success of both horticulture and viticulture in Arizona Colony, where he has valuable lands. He was born in Stepnoia, Samara, Russia, on September 9, 1856, the son of George Spomer, a farmer there. The father died in the district in which he had long lived and toiled, and his wife, who was Barbara Schaeffer before her marriage, still resides at the old home, the mother of six children, among whom August is the second oldest.

August Spomer was brought up on a farm and attended the public schools; and he served in the infantry of the Russian army, seeing nine months of service in the war with the Turks, and receiving, when the war was over, an honorable discharge. In November, 1877, he was married at the old home to Miss Anna Reinhart, a native of that section, and the daughter of George and Christine (Salwasser) Reinhart, farmers who lived and passed away there. They had nine children, of whom Anna is the fifth oldest. Mr. and Mrs. Spomer were engaged in farming in their native land until 1888. In February of that year they decided to take the momentous step of coming to the United States. At first only Mr. Spomer came—to Denver, Colo., where he worked in the Grant Smelter; but in the fall of 1890 his good wife and their

four children joined him, when he moved to Helena, Mont., at which place he was again employed in a smelter.

In 1896 Mr. Spomer came to Fresno, and leased a ranch of 160 acres at Wildflower. For six years he had a vineyard of raisins, and cultivated alfalfa and grew stock. He made some money, and then invested in a tract of raw land, buying sixty acres at eighty-five dollars an acre in Parent Colony No. 2, Arizona Colony. He leveled the land from hog-wall and built a fine residence and the necessary outbuildings, set out an orchard, and the first year had in about forty acres of peaches. The balance was devoted to alfalfa and vines. Then he bought five acres more, and each year added twenty acres, until he had 120 acres in all, eighty acres in a peach orchard, and the balance in a vineyard. Recently, he has so divided up his property that he has given each of his children a part of all he had but ten acres. He has had nine children, and seven are still living. August is a rancher at Dinuba; Christene is Mrs. Hansen, of Clovis; George ranches at Sultana; Peter is at Dinuba; and Charles, Adam and Conrad are in the Arizona Colony.

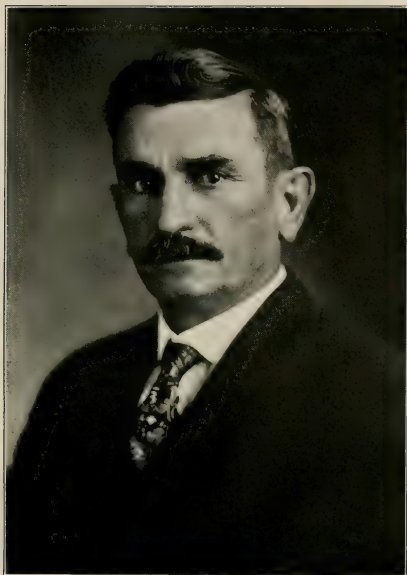
The Reverend Mr. Spomer makes his residence in Fresno. A duly ordained minister, he organized the Church of God in Christ in 1907, built the church himself on the corner of his lot, and has been its pastor ever since. He is a member and stockholder of the California Peach Growers' Inc., and of the California Associated Raisin Company. In national politics a Republican, he takes a keen interest in civic affairs, and prides himself on his American citizenship.

DOMENIC IMPERATRICE.—One who has persevered and had confidence in the producing qualities of the soil of Fresno County, and who has made "two blades of grass grow where none grew before," is Domenic Imperatrice, a well-known viticulturist and formerly a leader in musical circles of Fresno. A native of Italy, he was born May 9, 1867, near Naples, a son of Giacomo Imperatrice, who joined his son in New York and later came to California, where he died at the home of his son.

Domenic was educated in the public schools till he was twelve. He had a natural talent for music and learned to play the harp. An uncle was coming to the United States and brought his nephew with him, stopping in Detroit, Mich., in 1879. There the lad played the harp at social gatherings until he went to New York, when he continued playing for dances, etc. A brother had come to Fresno, and accordingly Domenic came to join him in 1885 and the two gained a reputation, the former on the violin and Domenic on the harp, and soon were in demand at social gatherings in Arizona, New Mexico, and Denver.

Our subject had seen the possibilities of the soil of Fresno County for growing grapes and had bought twenty acres of desert land in the Limbo Estate Tract and set it to vines, being the pioneer there. His venture proved a success, although people said nothing would grow in that district. It was not all easy work, times were hard and his vines were destroyed by rabbits until he put wire netting around his ranch. By working at his music and on his ranch he weathered the "storms" and today is recognized as a successful man. In 1905 he moved onto the place, to which he has added until he owns 160 acres in four ranches, all in muscat, malagas and Thompson seedless grapes. For many years he has been engaged in shipping his fruit. This business has grown to such large proportions that he has found it necessary to build a packing-house on his ranch, located on the Interurban Railway. Here the table grapes are packed and loaded in cars which are consigned directly to Eastern cities and markets.

Mr. Imperatrice was married in New York to Isabelle Epifanio, born in Italy, and they have had eight children, six living: Lena, Mrs. Falotico; Nettie, Mrs. Roselli; Jennie, Mrs. Shively; Jacob, who served in the 835th Aero Squadron of the Aviation Section of the United States Army Independent Air Force, serving overseas more than one year, and who enlisted in Fresno,



D. Imperatrice

December 12, 1917, and was sent to Waco (Texas) aviation training-camp, then to Garden City, N. Y., where he became a sergeant, who afterwards was in camp near London, England, from there going to France where he was in camp at Courban, there receiving a First Sergeant's rank and continuing to serve as a flight sergeant until the signing of the armistice, after which he left for the American camp at La Tracey and two months later sailed from Brest for New York City, and was honorably discharged March 15, 1919, and returned home where he took up viticulture with his father; Charles and Domenic, Jr., twins; Rose, who died aged twenty-two years; and George, who died at the age of thirteen.

Mr. Imperatrice is a Republican and has served as a delegate to conventions. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and is an enthusiastic booster for Fresno County, where he is well and favorably known as a leading citizen.

GEO. W. BARNES.—Extensively engaged in stock-raising and farming in Watts Valley is Geo. W. Barnes, who was born near Rolling Prairie, Laporte County, Ind., January 22, 1843. His father, Ezra, a native of New York, married Catherine Blaney; they crossed the plains to California in 1849; returning East they spent their last days in Indiana where Geo. W. was reared and followed farming until twenty-four years of age when he studied medicine under Dr Bowen Bowell and there attended the Cincinnati Electric Medical College. He practiced medicine at Three Oaks, Mich., until 1871, when he came to California, practicing medicine at Julian, San Diego County, for five years. In 1876 he came to the San Joaquin Valley, following farming near Reedley. About 1885 he located in Sycamore, engaging in mining. He is now engaged in farming and stock raising in Watts Valley, owning 400 acres there, where he makes a specialty of raising hogs.

Always interested in education, Mr. Barnes has been a trustee of Hawkins school district for many years.

WILLIAM YERINGTON.—A gentleman well and favorably known in the western part of Fresno County is William Yerington, the popular hotel man at Mendota. He was born near Ottumwa, Wapello County, Iowa, on March 21, 1870. His father, Mordecai Yerington, was a native of Ohio who, when a young man, emigrated to Iowa, where he improved a farm. In 1876 he removed to Putnam County, Mo., where he resided on his farm until his death. Mr. Yerington's mother was Hannah Lovett, a native of Illinois, who also passed away in Missouri.

Of the seven children born to his parents, William Yerington is the fourth in order of birth. He received a good education in the public schools, and assisted his parents on the farm until twenty years of age, when he determined to come West. Arriving in Boise City in 1890, when Idaho was a territory, he was employed on a horse ranch and rode the range. Later on he drove a delivery wagon in Boise City. In 1893 he came to California and was employed on a ranch at Hayward, and then in horticulture at San Jose until 1895, when he came to the San Joaquin Valley. His first employment there was at general ranching on the Uriah Wood ranch near Volta, later he worked on other ranches in the vicinity until he entered the employ of Miller & Lux and rode section on the canals out of Los Banos for a period of three years. He then became foreman of the Hog Camp ranch on the Dos Palos ranch at Oxalis, a position he filled for six years, when he resigned and located in Mendota in the spring of 1907.

Two years later, in partnership with Alex McCullough, Mr. Yerington purchased the Mendota Hotel. They ran it together till 1909, and then Peter Hansen bought McCullough's interest. Since then the Mendota Hotel has been conducted by Yerington & Hansen as a first-class house, and has been well patronized. They built a large concrete garage, the first concrete fire-proof building in town.

Peter Hansen is an old resident and a well-known man in the Mendota section. Coming to Merced County in 1890, he was in the employ of Miller & Lux about one year, when he began riding section on the canal for the San Joaquin & King City Canal Company, which he continued for eighteen years, during the first twelve years with his headquarters at the Dos Palos ranch, and the last six years at the Mendota Dam. He owns an alfalfa ranch at Stratford, Kings County. Mr. Yerington also owns an alfalfa ranch of seventy acres in the same locality.

William Yerington was married in San Jose to Miss Julia Haney, who was born in Iowa. Fraternally, Mr. Yerington is a member of the Knights of Pythias, of which he is Past Chancellor Commander.

WILLIAM MILTON BARCUS.—An experienced and successful dairyman, and a large-hearted, liberal fellow, is William M. Barcus, who came to California in the spring of 1908. He hails from Kansas, having been born in Labette County, in 1882, the son of George W. Barcus, a native of Illinois, who removed to Kansas and settled there as a farmer. Later, he removed to Custer County, Nebr., and homesteaded at Broken Bow, where he died three years afterward. Mrs. Barcus was Sarah J. Miller before her marriage, and she was born in Illinois. She reared her family on the Nebraska homestead, and in later years removed to Illinois. Now she resides in Clovis with her daughter, Mrs. Nelson Hollisen. Three children made up the family: Mabel, who became Mrs. Hollisen; L. R. Barcus, a farmer in Barstow; and William M., the oldest, the subject of our sketch.

Brought up in Nebraska until he was twelve years of age, William accompanied his parents to Little Rock, Ark., and at the end of three years to Illinois. He had begun to work on farms and to assist his mother; and he went to live near Charleston, Coles County, Ill., in the broom corn section, where he became a foreman on a large broom corn farm. The season of 1907 he raised wheat at Detroit, Minn.

In 1908, stirred by the reports of climate and opportunities in California, Mr. Barcus started for the Pacific Coast, and not long after arrived in Clovis, where he bought a forty-acre vineyard, which he ran for four and a half years, but eventually lost, because of the low price of raisins, there being no association. Then he came to Barstow Colony, where he was made foreman on J. E. Dickinson's ranch, and this position he held for the next six years. It was an alfalfa ranch, with cattle and horses, and the experience there gained proved later of great value. During this time he bought forty acres from Dickinson, and improved it by setting out Thompson vines, and in two years he sold it at double the cost.

In the meantime, also, Mr. Barcus had bought the present place of eighty acres, an alfalfa ranch, near the San Joaquin River, and made of it one of the most profitable alfalfa ranches in the district. He installed a dairy herd of forty-five Holstein cows of pure breed and high grade, and made a Holstein dairy which has proved a pronounced success. In 1917 he built there a fine residence and barns, and in various details he equipped the ranch and made it equal to any for miles around.

Believing in cooperation he has always supported the different fruit associations, being one of the original members of the Clovis Farmers Union. He was very active in interesting viticulturists in the California Associated Raisin Company, and was one of the organizers of the Fresno Cooperative Milk Producers, which was later merged into the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association, of which he is an enthusiastic member.

In Charleston, Ill., on June 19, 1907, Mr. Barcus was married to Miss Christine Westrup, a native of Illinois, and a daughter of Charles and Helen (Van Dolen) Westrup. Mr. and Mrs. Barcus have had seven children: Charles, who died in his second year; Leroy; Mabel; Warren; William Nelson; and the youngest are twins, Morris and Marjorie. The

family attends the United Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Barcus is the trustee, and he is also clerk of the board of trustees of the Barstow school district. He is a member and director of the Barstow Vinland Farm Loan Association. He belongs to the Fresno Lodge of Odd Fellows, and Illinois Chapter of the Modern Woodmen of America, and the Red Men of Fresno.

J. C. MATTHEWS.—A whole-souled, open-hearted gentleman, J. C. Matthews is familiarly known by all of his friends as Jack Matthews. He was born in Tarrant County, Texas, in 1861, the son of James and Sarah (Runnells) Matthews, natives of Missouri and Tennessee, respectively. They removed to Texas, where the father was a cattleman and where both parents spent their last days. James Matthews spent four years in the Civil War. Of the five children born to this worthy couple only two are living, of whom J. C. Matthews is the youngest. He was reared on the frontier in Texas. The nearest public school was over 100 miles away, and his education was therefore, naturally limited, being obtained under private instruction. From a youth he rode the range and learned the cattle business.

Mr. Matthews was married near Castroville, Medina County, Texas, to Elizabeth Asher, born in Stone County, Mo., the daughter of Leonard and Patsey (Hall) Asher. The father was born in Kentucky and the mother in Georgia. They moved to Missouri, where they followed farming. Leonard Asher served all through the Black Hawk Indian War and was always a frontiersman. The mother died in Missouri. The father removed to Arkansas, where he died. Of their union two children were born, of whom Mrs. Matthews is the younger and the only one living. She made a trip to Medina County, Texas, where she had a half-sister living, and there she met and married Mr. Matthews.

After his marriage, Mr. Matthews engaged in cattle-raising, having the brand I. P. with a bar over it. His range was located in both Medina and Frio Counties. In 1898 he sold his cattle and removed to Rhine, Okla., and followed farming until 1911. In that year he migrated to Fresno County, Cal., and since then has engaged in horticulture and viticulture. He is now superintendent of the Herbert F. Brown ranch, southwest of Rolinda, a position which he ably fills. This ranch is devoted to alfalfa and vineyard.

Mr. and Mrs. Matthews have five children living: Harvey, residing in Oklahoma; Noah, at Barstow, Fresno County; Minnie, now Mrs. Donovan, of Oklahoma; and Laura and Meda, who are at home assisting their parents. Mrs. Matthews is a Baptist, while Mr. Matthews adheres to the doctrines of the Church of God. Politically, he is a Democrat.

ROZELL W. RICE.—A resident of Fresno County since 1891, Rozell W. Rice was born in Kalamazoo, Mich., August 7, 1858. When he was ten years old the family moved to Irving, Kans., and after residing there for a period of seven years, went back to Michigan, Rozell W. receiving his education in both states. At the age of nineteen he went to work for the Hart and Ire Company in a shingle mill in the north woods of Michigan, north of Grand Rapids. After three years in this employment, he went to Van Buren County, Mich., and settled in the town of Lawton.

Mr. Rice's marriage, in 1882, united him with Ida Norton, a native of Michigan, and for five years he worked on the farm of A. H. Norton, his father-in-law.

In 1887 Mr. Rice removed to Schoolcraft, Mich., and there engaged in the grocery business for two years, later working as foreman of a ranch owned by Senator Brown of that state. Coming to Fresno, Cal., in 1891, he worked for the Lusk Canning Company for one year, then as a carpenter and builder was eight years with C. B. Hanner, during which time they erected some of the finest homes in Fresno. They made a specialty of a carefully planned house and one special design became so popular that they built twenty-eight homes from that one plan in the city. Later Mr. Rice was

foreman for contractor Z. T. Maxwell, and superintended the construction of the Emerson school and two other school buildings on C Street. During his years of building here Mr. Rice was closely identified with the construction of many homes and store buildings in Fresno and received recognition as a builder of ability. Since 1911 he has been superintendent of Mountain View Cemetery and fills that responsible position with his customary thoroughness.

Fraternally, Mr. Rice and his wife have been prominent in the county. Mr. Rice is a member of the Fraternal Aid Union and has been secretary of that order for twenty-one years; he is a Past Noble Grand of the Fresno Lodge No. 186, I. O. O. F., and has been a delegate to many of the Grand Lodges; he joined the Rebekah Lodge in 1903 and was financial secretary of the same twelve years; was out of office one year, and became secretary again in January, 1918. Mrs. Rice is also a member of the Rebekahs; they are both active members of the board of stewards of the First Methodist Church, and Mr. Rice is treasurer of the Sunday School. One daughter was born of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Rice, May Pearl, now deceased.

JOHN KOVACEVICH, JR.—A prosperous and well-known citizen of Central California, who arrived in Fresno a poor boy, but by the hardest of labor, severe frugality and the highest integrity has attained to a success not reached by many with far greater advantages, is John Kovacevich, one of the best representatives of the Slavonic race. He was born on February 5, 1883, in Dalmatia, Jugoslavia, and when a young man of only nineteen, he first saw Fresno, on April 6, 1902. For a while he worked for wages in the Barton and also the Butler vineyards; and so well did he progress that in three years he decided to start for himself in business. He became a fruit buyer, and his very initial venture and its outcome show how well adapted he has been to that field of operation. He paid five dollars for some figs lying on the ground; and having picked up, cleaned and properly handled the same, he sold the lot at a profit of \$160. From that time, he succeeded as a buyer; and from buying he advanced to raising fruit, making a specialty of raisins. When he was able, he bought forty acres in the Perrin Colony No. 2. The land was raw, but John Kovacevich at once set about to clear it and otherwise improve the same. He set out a vineyard of muscat grapes, with fig-trees on the border; and being pleased with the result, he bought another twenty acres in the same colony. This, also, was raw land; but he improved it and planted figs there. Then he purchased forty acres of the Fruitvale estate—an old vineyard yielding muscat grapes. In time he added 160 acres, one-half of which was in vineyard and the rest in alfalfa and raw land, and then he bought another 160 acres, thirty of which are in figs and oranges, while the rest is in raw land. Mr. Kovacevich still owns these properties. Besides these holdings in his own title and right, Mr. Kovacevich has rented 1,000 acres of vineyard bearing raisin grapes (but in 1919 is operating his own), and so well has he contrived all his work and commercial operations, that in 1917 he sold 1,200 tons of green and wine grapes. He also produced and sold 100 tons of figs and 120 tons of raisins. In the ordinary season, he employs regularly from ten to thirty hands; but when work and trade gets busy, he affords labor for from 100 to 300 hands. He has equipped his ranches sufficiently to operate and do a successful business, has made many improvements through a sense of pride and a liking to see the most up-to-date appliances and machinery installed. A self-made man, he can look back with satisfaction to the successive steps by which he has developed his properties.

Mr. Kovacevich chose for his bride Ellen Bogdanich, a daughter of the Jugoslavia, on the beautiful Adriatic, and this happy union has been blessed with four children—John, Madeline, Mary and Corrina, all proud of their Fresno County birth. He is the leader of the Jugoslavic race here, and has been the means of bringing into the county over 100 compatriots. He is



John Horavich, Jr.



Ella Horavich

active in the Croatian-Slavonic Association, and stands high in the esteem of his own people. He is influential among them, and has used his influence to make them loyal citizens of the United States, and appreciative of the freedom of life in this country. By his influence and through his wealth, he is constantly active in improving the condition of his people. Nor does he work alone for the Yugoslavs here; he has helped materially in collecting thousands of dollars, from the Slavonian-Americans on the Pacific Coast, for the freedom of the Yugoslavia in his native land; and this money has been secured from the more fortunate sons and daughters in America.

CHARLES SEMPE.—An industrious and successful stockman is Charles Sempe, who was born in Whart Cize, Basses-Pyrenees, France, October 20, 1880, the son of Jean and Jennie (Chilibolost) Sempe who were well-to-do farmer folk in France, and spent their entire lives in that country. Charles thus learned farming and caring for stock as it is done in his native land from the time he was a lad, at the same time receiving a good education in the local schools. When he reached military age he served a year in Company Eight, the Forty-ninth Regiment, at Bayonne. Having a desire to try his fortune in California he came to Fresno, arriving December 27, 1904. Being familiar with stockraising he found employment with a sheep man, continuing in that employment for several years. In 1911 he purchased a flock of sheep and ranged them on the plains for three years, when he sold them. However, in 1917, in partnership with Jos. Bidegaray he purchased a flock of 2,000 sheep of which he has charge and is ranging them on the plains in Fresno county—a business in which they are doing very well. He is an ardent Republican.

PETER A. PILEGARD.—A well-to-do raisin grower, owning an improved place of twenty acres near Bowles, Cal., Peter Pilegard and his estimable wife represent the best element of Fresno County's large Danish-American population.

Peter A. Pilegard was born at Fyen, Denmark, August 4, 1868, and is the son of Anders Jorgensen Pilegard and Annie (Jorgnesen) Pilegard. The parents owned a good farm in Denmark and were well-to-do. They were the parents of seven children. George, the first of the children to come to America, lived in Marshalltown, Iowa, for one year, then came to Fresno and worked for the Madera Flume & Lumber Company for three years. He then came to Oleander and bought forty acres of land in 1887, which he improved. He was one of the first Danes to settle in Oleander. He married, brought up a family of five children, and died in Oleander twelve years ago. Peter A., joined his brother George in California in 1888. Hans has the Pilegard farm in Denmark. Robert A. is manager of the Richter wholesale bottling works at Fresno, where he resides. Chris is a rancher at Oleander.

Peter Pilegard was reared in Denmark, received his education in the Danish schools and was brought up in the Lutheran faith. When nineteen and a half years of age he took passage on the Steamship "Island," of the old Thingvalla line, and after a fourteen-day voyage landed at New York and went directly to Oleander, Cal., where he arrived May 23, 1888. He helped his brother George and worked on various ranches, on the hay press, etc. In 1897 he was married to Dagmar Meyer, one of his countrywomen. Her father, Carl Herman Hartwick Frederick Meyer, went from Germany to Denmark, where he followed the trade of machinist. He was naturalized and married in that country to Ovine Christine Johanne Hansen, and they became the parents of seven children. Carl lived, married and died in Denmark, leaving three children. Magnus is a boiler maker and resides at Copenhagen, Denmark. Marie is single and is a resident of Oakland, Cal. Sophie is the wife of Mr. Thompson, and they live in Stockton, Cal. Harald is single, and is a barber at San Francisco. Nicolai is a sailor and his home is in Belfast, Ireland. Dagmar came to Fresno (accompanied by

her mother from Denmark) when only seventeen. She worked for the late Dr. Rowell and in the Gundelfinger family at Fresno for several years.

Mr. and Mrs. Pilegard have no children, and live comfortably in their commodious country residence, which Mr. Pilegard built in 1893. Mrs. Pilegard is a woman of refinement and culture, and the home atmosphere radiates the true home feeling and the graces of an exalted Christian life. Their well-kept, very productive ranch is planted to Thompson's seedless and muscat vines and peaches.

Mr. Pilegard has made two visits to Denmark. On the last visit, in 1908, he was accompanied by his wife and they remained in Denmark six months. Mrs. Pilegard's mother, who accompanied Mrs. Pilegard to America, made her home with Mr. and Mrs. Peter A. Pilegard until her death in 1916.

Returning from their last visit to Denmark, Mr. and Mrs. Pilegard brought with them a daughter of Mrs. Pilegard's brother Magnus,—Martha Ovine Meyer, and she has been reared in their home. She is now a young lady of eighteen, and is still with them, and is practically regarded as an own child.

Mr. and Mrs. Pilegard are members of the Danish Lutheran Church and Mr. Pilegard stands high in the counsels of that denomination. He is chairman of the Emmanuel Danish Lutheran Church at Easton. He is an influential member of the Peach Growers Association, the California Associated Raisin Company, and the Danish Creamery at Fresno, all of which he assisted in getting established.

A naturalized citizen of the United States, in his political associations he affiliates with the Republican party.

NIELS HANSEN.—A progressive viticulturist, whose experience leads others to seek his counsel and services, is Niels Hansen, who came to Fresno soon after the beginning of this century. He was born near Odense, Fyen, Denmark, on December 6, 1872, the son of Rasmus Hansen, a farmer, who died there in 1914. His wife was Mariana Nielsen before her marriage, and she is also dead. Three children bearing this honored name still are living, and Niels is the second oldest, and the only one in the United States.

When a boy Niels attended the local schools, and at eighteen entered the Danish army, serving in 1891 with the dragoon regiment. At the end of the usual period he received his honorable discharge. He followed farming until 1902 and while in Denmark was married to Miss Martine Jensen, a woman of many accomplishments. When they reached the United States, Mr. Hansen was not long in getting to Fresno, for he had heard of this highly-favored section of the Golden State. He was soon employed on ranches and in vineyards; and he rapidly became acquainted with the spirit of the Golden West.

In 1904, Mr. Hansen bought twenty acres three miles north of Sanger; but raisins were then selling low, and he did not realize the profit from his venture that he anticipated. In 1913 he sold the ranch, and returned to Denmark. During the previous May, Mrs. Hansen had died, leaving five children: Mabel, Arthur, Oscar, Victor, and Ella; and not long after, in New York City, Mr. Hansen married Miss Sophia Kyhl, a native of Copenhagen and a member of an old family. Mr. and Mrs. Hansen attend the Danish Lutheran Church, and are active in church and other good works.

Having returned to Denmark at the time that he did, Mr. Hansen was in Copenhagen when the war broke out and witnessed the great excitement there. In 1916 he returned to the United States, glad to get back to what he felt was home, as soon as he reached New York. Of course he continued west to Fresno and since then has been following viticulture here, first on the L. F. Giffen place near Rolinda, until that was sold. Then in the spring of 1918 he leased the Bates place on Madera Avenue, a fine tract of orchard and vineyard comprising fifty-one acres. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.



Florence M. Wilkins James, P. Wilkins

JAMES P. WILKINS.—A self-made and unusually successful rancher in the Fowler district, who is joint owner, with his brother, of several valuable ranches all of which they have acquired since coming to Fresno County, is James P. Wilkins, popularly known as Jim Wilkins, or "Big Jim," whose home northwest from Fowler is the center of a hospitality dispensed to friend and stranger. He was born in Halifax County, Va., near South Boston, the son of H. F. and Rebecca Jane (Hyte) Wilkins, the latter a woman of charming and affectionate disposition, who, like her husband, was one of a line of old-time Virginians. At the time of her death, when James was only four years old, she was the mother of five children, one of whom died, and when the father married again, three more came into the family. Two of these died in infancy, and one grew up and is now with the father and stepmother in old Virginia. James Wilkins' grandfather was William A. Wilkins, a farmer and secretary and treasurer and half owner of a toll bridge across the Dan River at South Boston, in Virginia. Three brothers and a sister are in California. W. S. Wilkins is a rancher southeast of Fowler. George F. Wilkins resides east of Fowler and is joint owner with James P. in two ranches—one a vineyard and orchard of 100 acres, one mile south of Fowler, and the other a ranch of 120 acres, known as the old Ducey ranch, on the North McCall road, six miles north of Selma.

James P. Wilkins was born on May 1, 1878, and as a boy grew up in Virginia, where he attended the common schools. Arriving in California when he was twenty-one he worked for wages for a year near Fowler. During the second year he rented land, and the third year he bought a ranch. In this way he has progressed steadily, and now occupies an enviable position of influence in his community.

At Fresno, on December 3, 1907, Mr. Wilkins was married to Miss Florence M. Joy, daughter of Alexander Cartwright and Maria Louisa (Maxey) Joy, natives of Nantucket, Mass., and of Kentucky, respectively. Her father came to California, in 1853, as a whaler from Nantucket, having sailed around the Horn and through the Golden Gate; and settling in Amador County, he mined for gold. He was an engineer at a quartz mill there, and in that county he was married. He came to Fresno in 1883, and here Mrs. Wilkins was born. Mr. and Mrs. Joy had six children: Jessie J. became Mrs. Blade, and died leaving five children in Fresno County; Dr. Maxey Joy is a prominent physician of Kansas City, Kans.; Letha Joy became Mrs. T. H. Mutton, of Fresno; Al. C. Joy is the sporting editor of the San Francisco Examiner, and resides in San Francisco; Florence Macy, now Mrs. Wilkins; and Lila Miryck became the wife of E. A. Devereux, superintendent of the Fresno Traction Company. Four children have blessed the happy union of Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins: Kathryn Rose; Ralph Cartwright, the second in order of birth; a third child, who died in infancy; and a fourth, named Miles Linwood, who also died an infant.

Mr. Wilkins is a booster for cooperative ranching and is a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company and California Peach Growers, Inc.

GEORGE RANDRUP.—An enterprising citizen who left railroading for agricultural pursuits in Fresno County, is George Randrup, born near Dalby, Denmark, on September 6, 1870, the son of Jorgen Randrup, a farmer, who had married Anna Vinfeldt. Both parents died where they had lived their honorable and useful lives. They had eight children, and six of these are now living.

Brought up on the farm at home, George, the oldest of those still alive, attended the public school and assisted his father until he was eighteen years of age. Then, in May, 1888, he started for the United States and settled at Laramie, Wyo., where he was employed at railroading on the Union Pacific. After twenty-three months he was made foreman of the section between Laramie and Fort Rawlins, and there he made an enviable record. In 1896 he resigned to return to Denmark, having previously been married in Laramie;

and he bought a farm near his old Danish home, where he engaged in farming and stock-raising. The wife he chose, in 1891, was Miss Gyda Ostergaard before her marriage, also a native of Denmark, and an especially helpful companion. He continued to farm in Denmark until 1908; and in November of that year he sold out and returned to the United States. He located at Ogden and returned to railroading under the same old roadmaster, John McEntee of the Oregon Short Line, who made him foreman between Ogden and Salt Lake. For three years he resided at Kaysville and served the company in his conscientious manner.

At the end of three years, attracted by the advantages of Fresno, he resigned and located here. He rented a ranch and engaged in the cattle business in Tulare County, near Dinuba. He also had a dairy and raised cattle. In February, 1914, he located in the Houghton district and leased two ranches—one a vineyard and orchard of eighty acres, owned by J. H. Hudson, and also forty acres planted to alfalfa. He had a dairy and also carried on horticulture and viticulture.

In 1917, Mr. Randrup bought the Owen & Kennedy ranch of eighty acres, and also a forty-acre alfalfa ranch, making his entire holding 120 acres, most of which is in alfalfa. He is raising hay and cattle and running one of the most sanitary and up-to-date dairies in California. His ranch is eleven miles northwest of Fresno, and a show-place it certainly is for those who would desire to study successful dairy-farming. He is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association, and a member of both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc., and also of the Danish Brotherhood.

Seven children are still living to bless Mr. and Mrs. Randrup: Carl is in the oil-field at Taft; John served in the United States Navy; Jacob is assisting his father; and there are Andrew, James, Margaret and Mary—all of whom, like their excellent parents, have many friends.

WILLIAM O. MOLINE.—An exceptionally agreeable man is William Moline, who was born in Chicago on February 7, 1864. His father was Oliver Moline, a native of Sweden who came to Chicago when a young man, and having learned the trade of a carpenter, continued as a builder a few years after the great fire that destroyed that city. Then he engaged in the grocery business, and had a well-stocked store on Wells Street, where he built a brick block. In 1910 he sold his Illinois holdings, came out to California and located in Fresno County, purchasing a fifty-acre ranch in the Vinland district on the San Joaquin River, where he resided with his son William, who has charge of the place. He also cared for his aged parent, who was an invalid for about two years before his death, July 11, 1919, aged about ninety-three years. Mrs. Moline was Hannah Peterson before her marriage, and she also was a native of Sweden. She died in Evanston, Ill., the mother of nine children, among whom William is the fourth oldest and the only one living.

He was brought up in Chicago, where he was educated in the public schools and assisted his father in the store until he learned the carriage painter's trade, and followed it in Chicago. Then he entered the Wadsworth-Holland Paint Company's factory, where he was a paint maker for eighteen years, or until he quit them to come to California to continue to care for his aged father in a milder climate than that of Lake Michigan, with its frigid winters. Mr. Moline farms some fifty acres in the Vinland district on the San Joaquin River, and gives his time and efforts mostly to horticulture and stock-raising. He has a well-improved place, and gets some of the best results that encourage the Vinland ranchers.

At Milwaukee, Mr. Moline was married to Miss Anna Lake, a native of St. Louis, where she received a good education. They have one child, Marie Elizabeth. The family attend the Lutheran Church in Fresno, of which they are members.

FRENCH CAFE.—One of the noted poets has said that "civilized man cannot live without cooks." He can get along with about everything else left out, but cooks there must be, according to this writer. It is possible that with his experience, William Schurich, the present owner of the French Cafe, will agree.

Mr. Schurich purchased the French Cafe from Joe Maracci, September 17, 1918. It is without doubt the finest cafe in all Central California. It was fitted at a cost of \$18,000 by Mr. Maracci, and is complete in all its details. The State Food Inspector said of it: "This restaurant keeps the best meats and has the cleanest and most systematic as well as sanitary appointments of any eating-place that I have ever inspected." Everything is modern and up-to-date. The linen is immaculately white and beautifully laundered; electrical machinery washes the dishes; the coffee is of the best grades of Mocha and Java, served with prime, fresh cream. It has its own bakery where are made the bread, buns, cakes and pastry used in its service. It is provided with an ice-making and refrigerating plant where are kept the meats, vegetables, fruits, milk, cheese, fish and other articles of food. The dining-room is daily supplied with fresh flowers on the tables, and is further adorned by a flag nine by fifteen feet, and by a service flag with nineteen stars. The chef is a famous cook, and with the food so wholesomely prepared, its appointments so altogether superior, and with the personal and close attention of the proprietor himself, together with the loyalty and fidelity of some thirty employees, the French Cafe is one of the show-places of Fresno, and whether he is or not, Mr. Schurich certainly has reason to be proud of his success.

Mr. Schurich was married to Miss Antoinette Van der Knaap, a native of Amsterdam, Holland, the marriage taking place in Fresno in 1916. They have one child, who is named for her mother, Antoinette. Mr. Schurich is a patriotic man and in every bond drive he not only purchased bonds for himself, but encouraged his employees to do likewise, even advancing the means to carry the bonds for any who wanted him to do so.

CHARLES GATEWOOD.—An energetic representative of a fine old family, whose traditions reach through the best periods and circles of the South back to historic Old England, is Charles Gatewood, the rancher near Rolinda, widely known for his pure-bred Poland-China hogs. He was born near Oskaloosa in Mahaska County, Iowa, in 1855, the son of William H. Gatewood, who was born in Bledsoe County, Tenn. He removed to Parke County, Ind., with his parents and then, about 1851, to Iowa, where he was a farmer. In 1880 he removed to Nebraska, and engaged in farming at Seward. The year 1910 found him at Elbert, Colo., and there he continued to live until his death on November 22, 1916, when he was more than ninety-three years old. Mrs. Gatewood was Nancy Lough before her marriage, and she was born in Preble County, Ohio. She removed to Indiana with her parents, where she grew up and was married, and she died in Elbert, Colo., aged eighty-six years, the mother of nine children, six of whom are still living.

As the second oldest in the family, Charles was brought up in Iowa and there attended the public schools, including the Oskaloosa High School; and at the age of about seventeen he got into saw-milling and followed that for thirty years. He bought a portable saw-mill and did a large business manufacturing lumber and timbers and tracking, particularly for the coal mines. Only when he had sawed up all the available timber in that section did he turn to agriculture.

He bought a farm and engaged in raising hogs, cattle, corn and alfalfa; and during these busy experimental years he spent three years in Nebraska, some time in Oklahoma, and several years at Ames, Iowa, having in mind the education of his children.

On January 8, 1912, Mr. Gatewood located in Fresno County, having come to California from Ames. He bought an eighty-acre ranch of raw land, the one drawback being the lack of water rights. He sunk two wells, therefore, and now

he has an abundance of water, which rises to within eleven feet of the surface. He installed a gas engine of twenty-five horsepower, and put in a centrifugal pump. This gives him a capacity of over 2,000 gallons a minute—over 200 miners' inches.

He leveled the land, sowed alfalfa, and engaged in raising hogs, choosing prize-bred Poland-Chinas; and when, in 1918, he exhibited at the State Fair in Sacramento, he won the Grand Champion prize with a Poland-China boar. Besides being the largest breeder hereabouts of this variety of hog, Mr. Gatewood raises about 300 tons of hay a year for the market.

While in Iowa, on December 24, 1882, Mr. Gatewood was married to Miss Hester A. Allgood, a native of Mahaska County, Iowa, and a daughter of John F. Allgood, a Kentuckian, and Eliza Jane Comstock, an Indianian, both pioneers of Iowa where they died, the former in 1883, and the latter in 1918, aged eighty-two. Mr. and Mrs. Gatewood have four children: Fred C., a graduate of the Oskaloosa High School is engaged in the breeding of Poland-China hogs on a farm adjoining that of our subject; he has one daughter, Helen; Ray, a graduate of the Ames Agricultural College in Iowa, was a teacher in the Manhattan State Agricultural College, Kans., where, for six years, he was professor of animal husbandry, and he is now in the cattle business in Oklahoma. He has one daughter, Jane. Ethel is the wife of William H. Doherty, of Fresno, who served in the United States Army about fourteen months, thirteen months of the time overseas; and Harry assists his father.

Mr. Gatewood belongs to the Fresno County Poland-China Breeders Association, and has one of the largest herd of pure-bred hogs in the state. He also belongs to the California Swine Breeders Association.

SANDOR KLEIN.—A prosperous rancher, who specializes in hog-raising is Sandor Klein, who was born at Beregszasz, Hungary, December 10, 1883, where his father, Moses Klein, was a farmer and merchant. After his school days were over Sandor was apprenticed and learned the cabinet maker's trade continuing to work at this calling in his native country until 1901 when he emigrated to New York City, where he followed his trade. In 1904 he came to St. Louis, Mo., remaining one year and then coming to San Francisco. Here he worked as a carpenter, then as a foreman carpenter, and later still engaged in contracting and building until 1910, when he came to Fresno County and homesteaded 160 acres in Huron district which he improved. He has installed a pumping plant for irrigating his alfalfa, and makes a specialty of raising hogs. He has prospered and now owns 480 acres of land. He also leases lands and has about 1,500 acres sown to grain each year.

He became a full citizen of the United States in San Francisco in 1913. In his party affiliations he is a Democrat.

JOHN HOLM.—One of the early settlers of Vinland is John Holm who was born near Karleby, Varsalan, Finland, May 1, 1858. He was raised in Finland, but enjoyed no school advantages; but an elderly lady taught him the alphabet. With this foundation he continued until he was able to read and write in four different languages. After completing his trade as a ship joiner he worked in different shipyards in Finland and Russia. He had a longing for the sea and in 1881, while on the ship Alex. Gibson, he touched at San Francisco while on the way to China via Liverpool and New York. In 1886 he came to San Francisco on a sailing vessel, the Oregon, on which he was engaged as ship's carpenter. He came around Cape Horn from New York, which he had rounded five times before this. He followed the sea for seven years and has been in all the important ports of the world.

In 1886 he quit the sea at San Francisco, and was employed by John Vance, Eureka, in the lumber woods. He remained with this firm for a time and then engaged with Mr. Bendixsen, with whom he stayed for eight years, and then came to Vinland, Cal., in 1904. He was one of the first to come to Vinland, as he had been here in 1903 and bought forty acres of land, moving upon it and

buying twenty acres more in 1904. In the improvement of his ranch he has experimented in planting until he satisfied himself that Thompson seedless is the best grape for him and the most profitable, for that vicinity. He has planted thirty-seven acres in Thompson seedless, three acres in apricots, an orchard of peaches and other fruits, and the whole sixty is under splendid cultivation.

Mr. Holm was married in Finland to Miss Sophia Johansen, who, like her husband, is a native of Finland, coming to this country in 1889. They are the parents of five children, four of whom are living: John Amil joined the colors November 3, 1917, served in Company F, Fifty-ninth Infantry, Fourth Division, trained at Camp Lewis four months, then Camp Green, N. C., then went overseas and saw service through all the big battles; was gassed at Argonne Forest, was discharged May 18, 1919, after eleven months in France and then came home to take up his work on the ranch; Eddie, a farmer in the Biola district; Andrew, assisting his father on the ranch; Sena, at home.

Mr. Holm is a member of the Lutheran Church, and also of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company. In the early days his ranch was the show place of the vicinity, and was used in demonstrating what could be done in production from the soil.

CHARLES E. VOICE.—The youngest fruit buyer, in point of years, in the San Joaquin Valley, and probably in the entire state of California, is Charles E. Voice. His wits have been pitted against those of some of the oldest and most experienced fruit buyers in the state, and he has held his own with them all. Fresno may well be proud of him, for he is one of her native sons, having been born in that city May 18, 1890.

He attended the grammar and high school at Fowler, supplementing this with a commercial course at Heald's Business College at Fresno and at San Jose. After leaving school he engaged in the fruit business, which he has followed ever since.

He has been in the employ of leading packing companies in Fresno County, and was bookkeeper and stenographer with the J. K. Armsby Company. He was also in the employ of J. F. Niswander at Malaga, and for a while was with the Earl Fruit Company, and also the Phoenix Raisin Company. In 1917, at the age of twenty-seven, he became buyer for the American Seedless Raisin Company, resigning in 1919; he is now with Rosenberg Brothers and Company, fruit packers.

For his life companion, Mr. Voice chose a native daughter of Fresno, who in maidenhood was Miss Edith Walker. Their union has been blessed by the birth of one child, a son, Edward Walker by name. Mr. Voice is a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood.

CHARLES HOMER BOUCHER.—Thrift and foresight, push and enterprise were characteristics of the sturdy pioneers who came to California in the early years of its history. Among these was Charles H. Boucher, born October 19, 1845, of English parents in Elbridge, Onondaga County, N. Y. His father, George Boucher, a surveyor, and his mother, Mary Anne Protherole, were married in England before coming to this country. George Boucher, the father of five children, three boys and two girls, died when Charles H. Boucher was but six years of age. Young Charles attended the public schools of Onondaga County until he was fifteen years of age, working for others to earn the wherewith to pay for his board and schooling. He was sixteen years old when the Civil War began, and responding to the call for volunteers, was mustered into service as a private, August 28, 1862, with Company E, One Hundred Twenty-second New York Volunteers, organized at Syracuse, serving under Captain H. H. Walpole until mustered out in May, 1865. During those three years he was in twenty-six general engagements, among other, Gettysburg, Cold Harbor and Antietam. After leaving the army he heard the "call of the West" and came to California, working for a year on a dairy farm in Solano County, afterwards renting grain

land and working for himself. After three years he purchased 320 acres of land and continued to raise grain for fifteen years.

At Fairfield, Solano County, December 20, 1872, he was married to Martha M. Weaver, a native of Clark County, Mo., and a daughter of William M. and Sarah Ellen (Henton) Weaver, born in Kentucky and Virginia, respectively. Martha M. came to California with her father, a farmer, who located in San Joaquin County in 1870. Four children blessed this union: Lottie May, Mrs. Weldon of this county; Emily Florence, at home; George Thomas died at the age of sixteen, and Archie Homer was in United States Army and served overseas until mustered out and is back on the ranch.

In 1884 Mr. Boucher removed to Fresno County, purchasing the east half of section 16, the home place, upon which there was not even a shrub at the time, neither was there water with which to irrigate the land. At that time the present site of the attractive little town of Clovis was a vast grain field. Mr. Boucher continued the occupation of grain raising in his new home, and, three years later purchased the west half of section 16. Seven years later he set a small acreage to vineyard, the venture proving lucrative, he continued to set out land to vineyard at intervals until he had sixty acres under cultivation, including five or six varieties of grapes.

Mr. Boucher passed away June 29, 1917. Since his death Mrs. Boucher makes her home in Fresno, looking after the interests left by her husband.

ROBERT E. GOODE.—Honored and beloved by all who knew him, and esteemed and looked up to by his fellow ranchers and raisin-growers with whom he competed in the most agreeable and stimulating manner, Robert E. Goode, a highly-progressive resident of Fresno County since October, 1889, passed from this life on April 22, 1918, mourned by many. His demise, viewed in the light of what he had already accomplished and what might reasonably have been expected of him, was indeed an "untimely taking off."

He was born at Birmingham, England, November 21, 1863, and came from a family of manufacturers and business men, all of whom made some mark in the world. Robert E. and his brother, Percy Goode, came together to America in October, 1889, after finishing their education at Rossall College and getting well started in practical business ways. After the arrival of their brother, Herbert, in 1890, the three brothers bought 180 acres of land near Fowler, Fresno County. They developed this property and became very successful as ranchers and in the growing of raisin grapes. While Robert and Herbert were improving the property, Percy, at the same time was making himself proficient as an expert accountant, in which profession he has advanced higher and higher in San Francisco.

Thus owning their ranches in common, and together developing their property, Robert and Herbert grew very intimate, and more and more attached to each other; nor did the marriage of either affect their affectionate association. They were nearly always seen together in their life-time; and perhaps it was meet that they should be summoned together in death. Their accidental deaths, to quote the Fowler Ensign, "shocked the community as it was never shocked before." . . . "The bereaved families have the profound sympathy of the entire community in this great, overwhelming sorrow." The funeral was held from the Fowler Episcopal Church, Bishop Sanford of Fresno, assisted by the Rev. W. Benson Bellis of Selma, officiated.

Robert E. Goode was married at Easton, in Fresno County, May 13, 1890, to Miss Eleanor Davenhill, who was also born at Birmingham, England. Her father was the late Henry Davenhill, for eighteen years a resident of Clovis and Easton, who passed away at his home in Pacific Grove, January 13, 1910, after a month's illness, prior to which he was for years partially, and for months totally blind. He had been born in England, was seventy-seven years of age, and was survived by a widow Matilda (Clarke) Daven-

hill, and six children: William Davenhill, of Santa Cruz; Arthur H. Davenhill, of Ashland, Ore.; Mrs. Claude Conlan, of Seabright; Mrs. R. C. Storie, of San Jose; Mrs. R. E. Goode, of Fowler; and Mrs. W. Gibson, of Santa Maria. Commenting on his death, the Fresno Republican, of January 17th, said: "The profusion of beautiful floral pieces marked the esteem in which the deceased was held in the city in which he had made his home. Every member of the large family was present at the funeral services." Mrs. Davenhill is also deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Goode became the parents of two children: Muriel, who graduated from the Fowler High in the Class of 1918, following which she did postgraduate work; and Richard Henry, who is a student in the grammar school. Mrs. Goode, with her two children, resides on the Goode Brothers' ranch one mile north of Fowler. The Goode family has always attended the Episcopal Church.

The Goode Brothers owned 140 acres near Fowler, and forty acres near Oleander, all of which they fully improved from a grain-field into the most valuable and productive ranches in the section wherein the property is located. They were active in the various associations of fruit- and raisin-growers of the county, and were enterprising and public-spirited citizens whom it was an honor to know. This property is now under the general supervision of Percy Goode, administrator of the two estates.

In closing we quote again from the Fowler Ensign, "They were admirable husbands and fathers, lovable and true, and kind neighbors; and in unblemished lives extending over nearly a third of a century in this community, proved to be public-spirited citizens of the highest and best character."

HERBERT GOODE.—Tremendously rapid as is the progress of California's development, and comprehensive as are the daily changes in the affairs of men and things, bringing about one succession after another until the person or event of yesterday seems more a memory than a reality, it will be many years before men cease to talk of the late Herbert Goode—and talking, to praise—and of his equally accomplished and genial brother Robert, who, as Goode Brothers, owned valuable ranches near Fowler and Oleander. As Goode Bros., these English-born Californians by adoption, springing from a family distinguished in both the manufacturing and the business worlds, came to take front rank as raisin-growers here, and in both aggressively and progressively operating as ranchers, to point the way where others with like ambitions and capabilities could follow.

From the day in 1890 when they began to establish themselves here they labored hard for the fullest and best development of the resources of Fresno County and the improvement of social life and living conditions for the everyday man and woman struggling with a too indifferent world; so that when they were called, in an instant, to bid adieu to human affairs, by an accident, society was deprived of their stimulating leadership. It is not surprising that the Fowler Ensign, in telling of their passing on should say: "That the lives of two of its most prominent and highly prized residents could be so suddenly snuffed out has stunned and saddened the entire community."

Herbert Goode was born in Birmingham, England, March 29, 1870, the son of a leading business man in Birmingham, and attended Malvern College in Worcestershire. In March, 1890, he came to America, and coming directly to Fowler, Fresno County, Cal., joined his brothers, Robert E. and Percy, who had preceded him four months. The three brothers acquired land, made extensive improvements and built their homes. In 1898, Herbert returned to England and in that same year he was joined in wedlock to Miss Maude Preston, a native of West Derby, Lancashire, who was educated in a private school for girls at Cheltenham. Four children blessed their union: Gladwyn and Beatrice, graduates of the Fowler High School; Mabel, a student there; and John who is attending the grammar school. The family

attends the Episcopal Church, and still resides in their home on the Goode Brothers' ranch, one mile north from Fowler.

The funeral services were conducted from the Fowler Episcopal Church by Bishop Sanford, assisted by Rev. W. Benson Bellis of Selma, and such was the attendance of friends from far and near that all could not gain admittance to the church. The Fowler Ensign paid its tribute in the following: "They were both good men in the strongest and fullest sense. They were admirable husbands and fathers, lovable and true, and kind neighbors. . . . The community has met with a deplorable loss, for they were willing workers in every public enterprise, every charity, every measure for the public good."

GEORGE A. TURNER.—The excitement caused by the discovery of gold in California, imbued many with a desire to visit the vast unknown west. Among the throng that crossed the Indian infested plains, in 1849, was John B. Turner, the father of George A., the subject of this sketch. John B. was a native of Missouri and was united in marriage with Maria Flemming, who was born in Ireland. After his arrival in California, John B. Turner was engaged in operating a steamboat on the San Joaquin River, of which he was the captain. He was well and popularly known as a pioneer boatman. The parental home of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Turner was blessed with eleven children, nine of whom are still living.

The career of George A. Turner began on April 2, 1872, at Antioch, Contra Costa County, Cal. His early education was received in the schools of Antioch after which he engaged in the hotel business in his native town, becoming the manager of the Arlington Hotel. In 1889 he arrived in Fresno, here he engaged in the liquor business and is giving his attention to the same interests at present. George A. Turner is the owner of unimproved orange land at Terra Bella, Tulare County.

He was united in marriage with Mae Doherty, a native daughter, who was born in San Francisco. Her father was an early pioneer of California, and a native of the Emerald Isle. Mr. and Mrs. George A. Turner are the parents of three daughters: Gwendolyn; Dorothy; and Patricia. Fraternally, Mr. Turner is a charter member of the new Fresno lodge of Eagles, No. 39; he is also a member of Fresno Parlor No. 9, N. S. G. W., which organization he became a member of when he reached his eighteenth year, and is a member of the Commercial Club of Fresno. George A. Turner is especially fond of hunting and to secure a greater degree of pleasure in following the sport, as well as the companionship of kindred spirits, he holds membership in the Temple Blue Rock Gun Club and the Temple Duck Club.

H. E. SPIRES.—A splendid type of the intelligent Western stockman, satisfied with nothing less than scientific, careful breeding, H. E. Spires, of the firm of Crawford & Spires, farmers and breeders of registered Holstein cattle and Duroc Jersey swine, has done much, as manager of the Hillcrest Farms, to raise the standard of dairy cattle and bacon and ham hogs in California. Mr. Spires was born in Christian County, Ill., on April 21, 1879, the son of Henry C. Spires who lived to the age of sixty-five, and was widely esteemed as a progressive farmer. He became the father of four boys and one girl, among whom our subject was the eldest child. When he was seven years old, his parents removed to Morgan County, Ill., and there he grew up on his father's farm while he attended the common schools. At twenty-one, he was married, and farmed awhile in Wayne County, Ill.

Removing to Oklahoma, Mr. Spires leased Indian lands, farmed, raised stock, and operated and sold threshing machinery for about seven years, and then he decided to engage in the raising of registered cattle and hogs. In 1913 he removed to Butler County, Kans., and there, during the next three years, laid the foundation for his splendid Holstein herd.

During this time, Mr. Spires entered into correspondence with Dr. J. M. Crawford, president of James M. Crawford & Company, at 1119 J Street,

Fresno, the owner of the land now comprising the Hillcrest Farms, situated about three miles south of Caruthers, and in December, 1916, he shipped to California a car-load of registered Holsteins—the beginning of a herd known as the Victory Herd, now comprising fifty registered Holsteins, twenty-five grades, and forty registered Duroc Jersey sows, boars and gilts, and known through the advertisements in the rural press of the Pacific and other standard farm and live-stock journals—admittedly one of the best herds and droves in Fresno County. Products of the Hillcrest Farms are sold for breeding purposes in Fresno, Kings, Tulare and other California counties.

As the practical stockman, Mr. Spires resides upon the Hillcrest Farms and personally superintends the management of that important estate. Mrs. H. E. Spires deserves much of the credit for the success of the Victory Herd, as she is one of the main spokes in the wheel in the management of same. Also among his stock is the celebrated registered Holstein bull, Sir Piebe DeKol Sergis Pontiac, who was sired by the world's famous sire, King Sergis Pontiac Count, owned by Arden Farms, St. Paul, Minn.

EARL J. WELLS.—A successful realty man of Fresno, who has made a record for the rapid acquirement of ranches, is Earl J. Wells, the son of Hiram J. Wells. His grandfather was the Rev. Abraham Wells, the well-known Selma pioneer preacher, whose zealous work in the Christian Church in Nebraska and at Selma will long be remembered. He never accepted a dollar for his ministerial services; he organized the large congregation at Selma and built the first Christian Church in that town—the present magnificent edifice having been built since. During his last year in Nebraska, Abraham Wells saw 320 acres of corn withered in a day by the hot winds. The Wells family then resolved to come to California, and they cast their lot in the John Brown Colony in Madera County. This colony failed, and they came thence to Fresno, in 1892, almost penniless. Yet today they are among the most prosperous and highly respected citizens of the county, Earl J., alone owning eleven ranches.

Earl J. Wells was born at La Vina, Madera County, Cal., and is a son of Hiram J. and Allie May (Millner) Wells, the former a native of northwestern Iowa, although he grew up and married in Nebraska. He came to California on his honeymoon, and he and his wife first settled in Madera County, having been induced to take part in the John Brown Colony. Abraham Wells had also come to California, so that father and grandfather were the first of the Wells family to come here. And here the Rev. Wells died in August, 1905, in his seventieth year. His widow, Mrs. Mary A. Wells, is still living, and is a prominent member of the Christian Science Society at Selma, being also hale and hearty, at eighty-four years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Hiram J. Wells are living on their ranch two miles northeast of Selma, on the Mill Ditch Road. He owns eight ranches outright, and is interested with his son Earl in a vineyard of forty acres at Seville in Tulare County. Brothers of Earl J. are Fred A. Wells, who is in the United States Navy and crossed the Atlantic three times to France, and Walker W., who is at home.

Born on November 5, 1892, Earl J. Wells was brought up on his father's ranch and educated at Selma. He spent one and a half years in the Selma Union High School, and then took a commercial course at Heald's Business College at Fresno. When eighteen years old he went to that city and engaged in the real estate business, and there became associated with W. L. Chapman, remaining six months. Then he started a real estate office in Selma, and formed a partnership with the late W. A. Lewis, who died on November 4, 1918, aged thirty-five years. Mrs. Nellie Lewis (whose life is elsewhere outlined in this history) is still interested with Mr. Wells in five ranches which the partners owned. Lewis & Wells continued as a partnership at Selma until Mr. Lewis' death.

In 1917, Mr. Wells volunteered for service in the World War, enlisting on August 17, and he was sent to San Pedro and Key West for training. At the latter place he was assigned to the Intelligence Department, and there he rose

to the rank of a first-class yeoman. He remained at Key West until July, 1918, when he was transferred to Mare Island, Cal., and there he was honorably discharged on November 23rd of that year.

On January 1, 1919, Mr. Wells started the Sun Maid Realty Company, the office of which is in charge of Mrs. Lewis, who keeps the company's books. Seven ranches are operated under the name of E. J. Wells and Company. Mr. Wells is a stockholder and member in both the Raisin and Peach Growers associations.

At Fresno, on July 20, 1911, Mr. Wells was married to Miss Bertha Louise Roberts, a native of Nebraska, who came to Fresno County in 1905, and grew up here. Mrs. Wells was with her husband at Key West in Florida. They are members of the First Christian Church at Selma, they belong to the Red Cross, and they have participated in the various war activities. Mr. Wells is a Blue Lodge Mason, having been raised at Selma; he took the first degree at Key West, and the second and third degrees at Selma, on his return after the war.

GEORGE C. CHRISTENSEN.—Rated as one of the best blacksmiths in Fresno County, George C. Christensen, the rancher, who resides on his own well-tilled raisin vineyard of twenty-six acres, enjoys the reputation of being a man of strict integrity whose name alone is an absolute guaranty of quality and honest service.

Born in Denmark, December 27, 1869, the son of M. C. Christensen now of Oleander, Cal., who married Laura Bach, our subject was one of eight children, three of whom are in Denmark and five in California, the oldest son and the second child. His mother died in April, 1918, seventy-five years old. The father is still living, in his seventy-sixth year, and he makes his home with Mrs. Girtz, a widowed daughter at Oleander. George grew up on his father's farm in Denmark until he was fourteen, attending the Danish schools; and then he was confirmed in the Lutheran Church. The next year he started to learn the blacksmith trade, and later he went to Randers, the third largest city in Denmark, to become a blacksmith's apprentice. On July 6, 1890, he obtained his certificate as a journeyman blacksmith, and his first work thereafter was in a country blacksmith shop at Langaa.

He next went to Copenhagen and entered a carriage shop where, in its blacksmith department, he did the general blacksmithing required. He soon became foreman of Vincent A. Thuge's carriage manufactory in Copenhagen, and that position he held for the last year and a half that he was in Denmark.

During this time he became a night student at the Copenhagen Technical School where he learned to be a mechanical engineer and draughtsman, pursuing the regular mechanical draughtsman's course. For the purpose of perfecting himself in his profession as a mechanical engineer and draughtsman, and intending to return to Copenhagen after a two years' stay in America, Mr. Christensen sailed for New York, leaving Copenhagen on July 9, 1893, and landing at the old Castle Garden, on July 26.

Landing in New York, he proceeded on to Providence, R. I., where he secured work in different blacksmith shops and finally entered the service of H. M. Howe and Company, who were engaged in the manufacture of carriages. He was soon put in charge of the blacksmith shop and he worked there for three years. He then went to New York City and entered Brewster's well-known carriage manufactory on Broadway, and there he continued to labor for a year. After that he returned to the H. M. Howe Company at Providence for three years more. Leaving that firm, he worked for another three years in various shops in Providence and Pawtucket.

In 1903 Mr. Christensen came West and direct to Fresno, and at Oleander he started the first blacksmith shop. Later he and his brother bought forty acres of land near Bowles. This he improved, and among other buildings he erected a blacksmith shop and for seven years ran it in addition to managing his farm. In 1913 he moved this shop to Bowles; and since 1912 the Christensen Brothers

have had a large, up-to-date smithy where they do general blacksmithing and also deal in farm implements, and they are now enlarging the shop for automobile work. Christensen Brothers manufacture the "Christensen Brothers Rotary Harrow," and the "Christensen Brothers Vineyard Truck," and in the latter line make both a plain truck and a cross-roads truck, for very short turns. Their plain vineyard trucks are pronounced by competent judges to be the very best made anywhere.

Mr. Christensen's grandfather, on his father's side, was a wheelwright; his father was a Danish farmer; his maternal grandfather Bach, was a pedagogue and a scholarly person; and now the two oldest sons of our subject are young men of pronounced ability along mechanical lines. They are able to turn out tanks of large size and excellent quality, working under the direction of their father; yet he would rather encourage them to follow agriculture than mechanical pursuits.

While at Providence, R. I., Mr. Christensen was married to Miss Nellie Nelson of that city at the time they first met, although a native daughter of Sweden; and they have eight children: Ina, Arthur, George, Ethel, Paul, Harry, Carl and Edna. The family attend the Danish Lutheran Church at Easton. Jørgen Christian Jørgensen was really the full and correct form of Mr. Christensen's name as it was given when he was baptized; but this Jørgen was changed to George after he came to America. Fritz B., his brother, owns a ranch of twenty acres, two miles south of Bowles, on which he resides.

N. P. GONSER.—One of the most progressive merchants and successful young business men of Laton, Cal., is N. P. Gonser, the owner and manager of the popular general merchandise store known as "Gonser's Department Store," located west of the Santa Fe Railway tracks, where he has been engaged in business since the fire of July 4, 1911. N. P. Gonser is a Buckeye by birth, born June 23, 1880, at Millersburg, Ohio, a son of the Rev. Albert Gonser, now the pastor of the German Reformed Church, at Mt. Carmel, Pa. His mother, who passed away when he was sixteen years of age, was in maidenhood Susie Uhl, a descendant of a very early family that settled in Philadelphia in 1680, on about 160 acres of land that was granted them by William Penn. The land still belongs to the descendants of the original owners but has been rented to the city of Philadelphia for 100 years or more.

Rev. Albert Gonser was married in Ohio and at the time of the birth of his son N. P. Gonser, the subject of this review, he was a student attending the college at Tiffin, Ohio. Later he took a course at the Theological Seminary at the same place, which is now a branch of Heidelberg University. The Rev. Albert Gonser's first charge was at West Salem, Ohio, and N. P. Gonser's first recollection of his home is in connection with West Salem. Like most ministers' families the Gonser family moved to various places so the childhood of N. P. was spent mostly in Ohio and Pennsylvania where he received his early education which later he supplemented by pursuing a course in the Eastman Business College, at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where he finished a course in bookkeeping and related branches. Mr. Gonser, being a very apt student, the faculty of the college recommended him to the proprietors of the millionaires' resort, at Tuxedo Park, N. Y., for the position of assistant bookkeeper which position he accepted and filled for eighteen months. About this time he became obsessed with the idea of engaging in the sheep business, and with this purpose in mind he left Tuxedo Park for Great Falls, Mont., in 1901. Upon reaching his destination, he was dissuaded from entering the sheep business, but was persuaded to remain and accept the position of assistant bookkeeper with the firm of Stearn Brothers, at Great Falls, a large department store. After eighteen months' service he left for Bakersfield, Cal., where he made the acquaintance of the firm of Mosher & De Caner Road Oiling Company, with whom he accepted a position, going as their representative to Woodland, Cal., where he took charge of their work in Stockton, Sacramento, Woodland, Marysville and Chico. At first the oil was

distributed by railway tank cars, and wagons but later was shipped by barge from Point Richmond to points all along the Sacramento River, as far north as Colusa. In the fall of 1905, Mr. Gonser took a review course in the Stockton Business College, and soon thereafter became connected with the Automatic Sprinkler Company, in the installation of sprinklers in various saw mills at Korbhel, Humboldt County, also at Stockton, Napa, and at Clovis, Fresno County, and in San Francisco. In the latter part of 1906, Mr. Gonser accompanied his friend Adolph Johnson, on a trip to Laton, Cal., to visit friends of Mr. Johnson. So favorably was he impressed by this section of the county that he decided to remain and accepted a clerkship with T. E. and E. P. Blanchard, proprietors of a general merchandise store at Laton, and for four and a half years efficiently filled the position of clerk and buyer for the firm, remaining with them until the fire of July 4, 1911, which consumed a large portion of the business district of Laton. Following the fire he decided to purchase property and build a store room and engage in business for himself. His capital at that time was limited, but he possessed self-confidence and a determination to succeed. By wise foresight Mr. Gonser chose the west side of the Santa Fe Railway for the location of his future business, at Laton, and subsequent events have proved the wisdom of his choice. He purchased sixteen lots and built a store on the corner where he opened a general store and livery, where he now keeps a carefully selected stock of groceries, hardware, crockery, dry goods, confectionery, and also handles motor accessories, oil and gasoline. The store is especially well located to supply the trade coming from the fertile country west of Laton, including the Laguna, and Summit Lake districts. Mr. Gonser is a wide-awake, enterprising, and progressive young business man, who has by strict integrity, close attention to business and a square deal to all his patrons built up a large and profitable business. His property and stock in the business and his livery stable are now valued at \$20,000, the greater portion of it being the result of his business enterprise since opening his store.

On June 23, 1908, Mr. Gonser was united in marriage with Miss Hazel Hemmer, from Stockton, who came to Laton as bookkeeper for T. E. and E. P. Blanchard's store, while Mr. Gonser was still in their employ. This happy union has been blessed with four children: Lester, Evelyn, Harold and Florence.

REUBEN FRANKLIN WILKINS.—A progressive and prosperous raisin-grower, R. F. Wilkins has ninety-three acres in full bearing a mile and a half north of Fowler, upon which he has made all the important improvements. He was born in the same house in which his father first saw the light, at Redbank, Halifax County, Va., on August 27, 1871, the fourth child and third son in a family of ten children—five boys and five girls—all of whom are still living, nine being in California and one in North Carolina. The Wilkinses came from England in the seventeenth century and took part in the Indian and colonial wars, and also in the Revolution, as is attested by the moss-covered gravestones seen by Mr. Wilkins in the cemetery near Redbank, Va. Petersburg was the nearest city in those early, strenuous days, and in that old-time center the record of the Wilkins family is well known. His father was William Paranon Wilkins, and his mother before her marriage, was Letha P. Yancey, who was early orphaned and was thereafter reared by her grandmother Griffin. She was married in Virginia, where all her ten children were born. The parents are both living in Fresno County. Grandfather Wilkins and Grandfather Yancey were planters in Halifax County, and both families were Baptists.

R. F. Wilkins attended the public schools of Halifax County and grew up on his father's plantation, where they raised tobacco, wheat and corn. When past twenty-one he came direct to Fowler, Cal., where his older brother, Thomas Jonathan Wilkins, was then working. He arrived here on January 28, 1894, and took work on the farm of George Feaver, Jr., with whom he remained during the summer and winter, until June 15, 1896. Then he worked

out for others. and in November, 1896, he rented a vineyard of L. H. Norris, in Norris Colony.

Mr. Wilkins was married on December 28, 1897, to Miss Luella F. Waterman, a daughter of Meriben and Mary E. (McCoy) Waterman, natives of Ohio and Virginia, respectively, who were married in Missouri and came by rail to California in 1869, settling in Solano County, where their daughter was born. Later they went to Lake County and farmed, and in that county Mrs. Wilkins was reared. She attended the public schools and Overholster's Academy at Lakeport, and was admitted to teach in Lake County. She obtained a state diploma while teaching in Sonoma County. In September, 1896, she came to Fresno County and taught at Fowler; and the following year she was married.

Mr. Wilkins continued to rent in the Norris Colony until 1899, when he bought his present place. He had just \$645, a watch and a roll of blankets when he started to rent in 1897; now, among other property, he has his home place of seventy-seven acres, and fifteen and a half acres of the old Glazier place, and with the exception of the latter, he has improved his holdings from a grain field and sand hills to fine vineyards of Thompson's seedless, sultanas and muscats, also raising grapes and peaches of the drying variety.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilkins have three children: Floyd, who graduated from the Fowler High School in the Class of '17, entered the University of California in September, 1918, and later enlisted in the Students' Army Corps and was honorably discharged on November 29, of that year. Bessie is in the Fowler High School, and Alice E., who was in the grammar school and who passed away August 14, 1919. Mr. Wilkins is a Democrat, and a man of influence in his locality. He is a director in the management of the Bridge Canal Ditch, and is ever ready to support any measure calculated to advance the development of Central California along broad and permanent lines. He has been a strong supporter of cooperation among the fruit-growers and is a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. A friend of education, Mr. Wilkins has always favored good schools and is a trustee of the Fowler Union High School. In May, 1919, Mr. Wilkins made a visit to his old home in Virginia, and while there he took some pictures in the historic cemetery at Redbank, and other places of interest.

F. C. BROOKS.—It is not often, perhaps, that one meets with a musician who is also a successful horticulturist, but this is true to a marked degree of F. C. Brooks, the well-known clarinet player, who has a finely-improved place which he is carefully managing. He was born in Manchester, N. H., on May 8, 1863, the son of George Washington Brooks, a native of Hancock, N. H., who was a manufacturer. He served as foreman of the Amoskeag Manufacturing Company for forty years, and died in his native state. He had married Moretta Cheney of Londonderry, N. H., and she also died in the Granite State.

F. C. was the only child of this union, and was given every educational advantage that the public schools afforded. He early studied music and attended the New England Conservatory. He made a special study of the clarinet, and for awhile was the pupil of Prof. E. Strasser of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. He then went to Waltham, and while employed by the Waltham Watch Company in their dial department, he played in various bands and orchestras.

At Waltham, on Christmas Day, 1891, Mr. Brooks was married to Miss Sarah Adelaide Kirk, a native of Cherryfield, Maine, and the daughter of Henry and Adelia (Quigley) Kirk, also a Cherryfielder and a native of Bear River, N. S., respectively. Mr. Kirk, who was a farmer, died when his daughter, the younger of two children, was a babe; her mother, who is now

Mrs. Alfred Sherman, resides at Boothbay, Maine. Mrs. Brooks was educated in that state and when twenty removed to Waltham, Mass.

In 1910 Mr. and Mrs. Brooks came West with their family to Fresno and bought their present very desirable place of twenty acres on Chittenden Avenue. They built a residence and made many improvements. They also set out a fine orchard of peaches and apricots. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Brooks. Hazel Adelia and Florence Adelaide are graduates of Heald's Business College; and Thelma Blanche attends the Fresno High School. There are also Carl Frederick, Eleanor Dorothy and Vera Evangeline.

In his spare hours Mr. Brooks still follows the attractions of music. He plays the clarinet in the Park Band and in the orchestra of the White Theater. He belongs to the Red Men, and is a Republican in national politics.

LOMAN WARD HAMILTON.—A tactful and popular oil-man, particularly experienced in the field of production is Loman Ward Hamilton, who came to Coalinga on June 22, 1910, and has been production foreman for the Union Oil Company ever since. He was born at Farmington, W. Va., on December 5, 1878, of Scotch-Irish descent, the son of James M. Hamilton, a native of that place. He was in the Civil War as a soldier of the Confederate Army, and was long active as a farmer. He still resides at Farmington with his wife, who was Melissa H. Martin, from the same birthplace. She is the mother of nine children, seven of whom are yet living.

The fourth oldest in the family, Loman Ward was brought up on a farm and there remained until he was eighteen, during which time he attended the public school. When he left the farm, he entered the employ of the Georges Creek Coal and Iron Company and remained with them as stationary engineer for four years, resigning to sign up with the Standard Oil Company, at Smithfield. He worked in the fields, learned field work in general, and continued with that company for the next six years.

In June, 1910, he came to California and Coalinga and entered the employ of the Union Oil Company on the Claremont lease. He began at the bottom, working up until he became production foreman of the Iredell lease. He is now production foreman of both Claremont and Iredell leases.

At Fresno, Mr. Hamilton was married to Miss Mary Loudenslager, a native of West Virginia, by whom he has had two children: Mary Louise and James Madison.

Mr. Hamilton was made an Odd Fellow at Farmington, his birthplace, and he is still a member of that organization; and he was made a Mason at Coalinga, Lodge No. 367, F. and A. M. Mrs. Hamilton belongs to Eschscholtzia Chapter No. 276, Order of Eastern Star, at Coalinga.

ROBERT LUNDELL.—An enterprising and energetic young rancher of Selma Colony is Robert Lundell. He was born at Gottenburg, Sweden, May 17, 1881, and possesses the characteristics that his nationality warrants—thrift and indomitable energy—which have been valuable assets in bringing about his well-merited financial success.

His father Olaus Lundell, a butcher and farmer by occupation, died when Robert was very young, leaving a widow and nine children of whom Robert is next to the youngest child.

Robert received his education in Sweden and was confirmed at the age of fourteen. He served a four years' apprenticeship as a sausage maker in Gottenburg, and at that time resolved to come to California where his brother Otto and brother-in-law, J. B. Anderson, were living in San Jose. Sailing from Gottenburg May 9, 1899, he reached San Jose, Cal., May 28, 1899. He went to work on a farm, then came to Kingsburg in July, 1899, going thence to Fresno where he engaged with the Grand Central Hotel Laundry. He followed the laundry business in Fresno, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Selma for fifteen years, and established the Selma Steam Laundry, which he ran for three years, selling it in 1910.



John M. Edgison.

Mr. Lundell has been very successful in buying, improving and selling fruit ranches. In 1902 he purchased twenty acres three miles east of Selma and improved it, setting out every tree and vine on the place. He sold it at an advance. It is now owned by J. B. Crocker. After disposing of the Selma Steam Laundry he bought a forty-acre ranch near Caruthers, which he soon sold at an advance. He then bought and sold a ten-acre ranch and later an eleven-acre ranch which he sold to advantage in the fall of 1917, at which time he purchased the Charles Donnell tract of twenty-one acres on Washington Avenue, one and a quarter miles north of Kingsburg. He put that property in fine shape, expending over \$2,000 on the place, and sold it to advantage before he bought his present ranch in Selma Colony, a well-improved ranch of sixteen acres where he now lives with his family, and in joint ownership with a brother, he owns another eleven-acre ranch near Selma.

Mr. Lundell was married in Los Angeles in 1904 to Miss Emma Quist and they are the parents of three children: Dorothy, Myrtle and Alice. In their religious views Mr. and Mrs. Lundell favor the Swedish Baptist Church.

JOHN MARSHALL ATKISSON.—One of the oldest residents, and closely associated with the growth and development of Coalinga from its earliest days, is J. M. Atkisson, now the foreman of the Associated Oil Company's Supply Yards, Coalinga. He was born near Fort Scott, Bourbon County, Kans., on March 18, 1864. His father was an experienced blacksmith and a most excellent man, and under him John M. learned the blacksmith trade at Fort Scott, Kans., and followed this trade there until 1886 when he came to California, where he worked on ranches near Stockton. In 1887 he went to Huron, Fresno County, where he went to work for the Stockton Land Company, in reclaiming the desert land near Cantua. In 1892 he became foreman for the Pleasant Valley Stock Farm, at Turk. In the fall of that year he leased 1,400 acres of land from this company, above Coalinga, which he farmed to grain.

In 1896 Mr. Atkisson located in Coalinga, and farmed grain on what is now Sunset addition. This is now in the center of the residential section of Coalinga. During this time he served as Deputy Constable, later as Constable and Deputy Sheriff, and after that as Deputy Marshal of Coalinga for four years. For five and a half years he was special officer for the California Limited Oil Company (now the Shell Company), on their lease at Oilfields. In the early days he was also school trustee of Coalinga. In November, 1916, Mr. Atkisson was made foreman, by the Associated Oil Company, of their supply yards in Coalinga. Long ago he saw the future of Coalinga, and bought a number of lots and built houses on them, and bought one house, and this and the five he built now afford him an income. At one time he owned the lot on which now stands the Pleasant Valley Hotel.

In 1893, Mr. Atkisson returned to his old home in Kansas and while there he was married to Calista A. Boulware, who was born in Bourbon County, Kans. She died in 1913, leaving three children: John C., who served overseas, attached to the 121st Machine Gun Battalion of the Thirty-second Division, serving on different fronts, and after twenty-two months in the army he was honorably discharged; Clarence E., engaged in business in Oakland; and Maude A., who graduated at the Coalinga High School and also from the Fresno State Normal, and who is now attending the University of California.

Mr. Atkisson was the first individual to supply the citizens of Coalinga with drinking-water. He brought water from Armona, shipping it by rail in tank cars, and delivered it to Coalinga homes. Thus he continued to serve the people for several years, when he sold out. Mr. Atkisson was made a Mason in Welcome Lodge, No. 255, at Lemoore, but is now a member of Coalinga Lodge, No. 387, F. & A. M. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, as well as Coalinga Lodge, No. 9446, M. W. of A., of which he is Past Council Commander.

AUGUST HARTWICK.—Possessing the fundamental characteristics for success, August Hartwick is keenly alive to the opportunities in Fresno County and has won a place for himself in his community, maintaining a standard of true American ideals, though born under another flag. His birth occurred in Straub, Samara, Russia, October 10, 1876, and his parents, George and Katrina (Willdt) Hartwick, were farmer folk in that country. The second oldest of three children, and the only one living, August Hartwick was educated in the public schools of his native province and assisted his father on the home farm until nineteen; he then began working on ranches on his own account, and his marriage, May 15, 1899, united him with Miss Kathrina Wegele, born in Laub, Russia, a daughter of George and Lizzie (Gideon) Wegele, also farmers of Samara.

In 1902 the young couple came to Fresno, and here Mr. Hartwick worked on ranches for a time and for the Southern Pacific Railway. In September, 1905, he bought twenty acres of raw land in the Biola district and began the work of transforming it into a productive ranch. He built his residence and set out the acreage to Thompson seedless vineyards and orchards, and sowed alfalfa. He later added another ten acres, one and one-half miles west, and set this to Thompson vines and sowed alfalfa also, and operates a small dairy in connection. On the home place he has erected a residence and enjoys the comforts and prosperity made possible through his own efforts, and with the help of his estimable wife.

Eight children have blessed their marriage: Mollie, Mrs. Friesen of Dinuba; Henry; Floyd; Esther; Ezra; Helen; Marie; and Alvina. The family attends the Seventh Day Adventist Church at Barstow. Mr. Hartwick is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and, with his wife and family, is highly esteemed in the community.

HANS C. HANSEN.—An energetic builder of Central California who has seen not only Fresno but Fresno County develop and expand almost beyond belief, is H. C. Hansen, the vineyardist on Belmont Avenue about two miles west of Fresno, who came to California in 1883 and the next year decided that Fresno County looked better to him than any other place on the Pacific Slope. He was born in Bornholm, Denmark, on July 23, 1862, the son of Lars Hansen, a farmer there, and so was reared on a farm, while he attended the public schools. His father died when he was about fifteen, and at sixteen he was apprenticed to learn the shoemaking trade. He made shoes until he was twenty-one and then he took the great step of crossing the ocean to America.

At first he settled for a while in Merced, Cal., where he worked for William Applegarth on his large grain ranch, but in 1884 he came to Fresno County, following grain-farming for the Applegarth interests here. He worked at grading on land before it was improved, and managed sixteen horses on a V-ditcher. Then he himself bought an outfit, leased land at Centerville for a year, and next, for two years, raised grain seven miles west of Fresno. He then bought a vineyard set out to Malagas, but found that he could not make a success of it because of alkali. So he lost what he had saved and was compelled to start all over again.

Mr. Hansen then rented a vineyard west of Fresno and made such a stake that he was able to buy a fine vineyard of twenty acres on Kearney Avenue where he raised Muscats for nearly twenty years. Selling that, he bought his present place of twenty acres in Muscats. Later he bought twenty acres of raw land on California Avenue, five miles west of Fresno, which he checked and planted to alfalfa, raising hay. He belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company, and has been a member of all the cooperative associations from the beginning.

At Fresno, Mr. Hansen was married to Miss Stella Welch, a native of Iowa, by whom he has had three children: Clara, who is Mrs. H. H. Jorgen-



F. A. Savage



Eleanor A. Savage

sen, and lives near Fresno; Frank, who was educated in the public school and Fresno Business College, entered the United States service, went overseas with the Rainbow Division, later transferred to another division, was discharged after seventeen months service in France, and returned home in July, 1919; and Mabel, who is Mrs. C. C. Brockman, of Madera.

Mr. Hansen is a Republican in national politics, and in religion he adheres to the tenets of the Methodist Church. He served as school trustee for six years in the Madison School district, acting as clerk of the board for two years. He belongs to the Odd Fellows in Fresno, Lodge No. 186, and to the Woodmen of the World; and he and his wife are members of the Rebekahs.

H. A. SAVAGE.—A distinguished representative of the California Bar, whose increasing fame is due in part to his specializing in commercial and real estate law, in part to his high moral character and the confidence naturally reposed in him by all who know his life and daily standards, is H. A. Savage, the senior member of the well-known firm of Savage & Lovejoy, whose suite of offices is at 909 Griffith-McKenzie Building, Fresno. He is an excellent business man, and is becoming a large landowner, and thus more and more in touch with a field whose legal aspects he is called upon to elucidate and defend. Mrs. Savage enjoys the pleasant association with an historically interesting family, and as a lady of culture and great breadth of views, she is an excellent wife and mother.

A native son, Mr. Savage was born at Terra Bella, in Tulare County, on September 30, 1888, and his father was P. M. Savage, a farmer of Tulare. He married Miss Flora Darby, who was born in J. Ogden Mills' mining camp on the American River, one of the first, if not the first white girl born there. Her father and her mother were natives of Texas and Mississippi, respectively, and they were married in Yolo County, California. H. A. Savage grew up on his father's grain farm, and as he began to work when he was a mere boy, he early learned to drive horses and mules, sometimes guiding as many as from eight to thirty-two horses and mules on a harvester.

In 1900 his parents moved from the farm to Sanger, where the lad attended both the grammar and high schools, and was graduated with the Class of '06. He then went to the University of California, where he pursued the regular four years' course in political science and was graduated with the Class of '10, when he received the degree of Bachelor of Letters. Finishing his work at Berkeley, he went East to Cambridge, Mass., and in September, 1910, matriculated at the Harvard Law School; and three years later in June he was graduated from Harvard University with the J. D. degree.

Returning to Fresno, Cal., he opened a law office and in 1913 he was appointed City Attorney of Sanger, and in that responsible capacity he has served that growing municipality ever since. His first office was in the Rowell-Chandler Building, which was just completed, and when the Griffith-McKenzie Building was finished, in 1915, Mr. Savage moved his offices there. The present partnership, which has proven so successful, was formed by Mr. Savage and G. R. Lovejoy, also a well-known attorney, in October, 1918.

As a good manager and prosperous business man, Mr. Savage makes his showing in land ownership and development. He owns 320 acres in the Tivy Valley, where the Kings River emerges from the mountains, and with W. O. Miles, the president of the Union National Bank of Fresno, he owns the old Maze ranch on the north bank of the San Joaquin River. This consists of 2,400 acres, now being planted to vines and trees. He also owns four other ranches, two grain farms in Madera County, and two in Fresno County. One of these is in Perrin Colony No. 2, near Fresno; and Mr. Savage also has 400 acres of timber lands at Pine Ridge. This ownership of agricultural land has made Mr. Savage much interested in the problems of irrigation.

In his zeal and patriotism Mr. Savage during the war was very active in the different war and Liberty bond drives, giving of his time and best efforts.

He was one of the "Four Minute Speakers" working under the direction of the Committee on Public Information at Washington; with his ability as a public speaker and being popular he used his influence to arouse and sustain the patriotism of the citizens of Fresno County. At the Fresno High School during the Second Liberty Bond drive in a little more than an hour he raised over \$104,000. President Wilson took personal notice of it and wired him his appreciation of his splendid work. This was the precedent that started the state-wide systematic Liberty bond work in the public schools.

On August 20, 1910, Mr. Savage and Miss Eleanor A. Chambers were married at Sanger. The bride was born at Yakima, Wash., and later graduated from the Sanger High School and the San Jose State Normal School, and for a while, during the time when Mr. Savage was a student at Harvard, she also pursued courses at Radcliffe College, the woman's annex of Harvard University. Mrs. Savage from childhood has been a great lover of horses so much so that her admiration led her to ride the cow ponies on her father's ranch. Thus she became a splendid horsewoman. She is also an expert with a big game rifle, and one summer it was her fortune to kill eight bear.

Four children have been given to this worthy couple to bless their fortunate union. The eldest is Harold Alonzo, Jr.; then comes Joseph Townsend, and the third in the order of birth is Andrew Jackson; while the youngest is Alvin Palmer. The name of the third child Andrew Jackson is accounted for by the interesting historical fact that Mrs. Savage's grandfather, Andrew Chambers, was born in Andrew Jackson's house, and her great-grandfather, Captain Chambers, led the first immigrant trains into the great northwest in a prairie schooner now in the Portland Museum, and on exhibition at the A. Y. P. E. Exposition at Seattle. He was an Indian fighter of renown. Mr. and Mrs. Savage are members of the Christian Church at Fresno, where he was superintendent of the Sunday School for two years; he is a Knights Templar Mason, holding membership in Fresno lodges.

L. M. HUTCHINSON.—A well-informed oil man who understands every detail of the business, and is therefore highly esteemed by all who have dealings with him, is L. M. Hutchinson, the popular superintendent of the North Pole Oil Company. He was born in Marietta, Washington County, Ohio, on May 2, 1864, and his father was Henry U. Hutchinson, who was born in Noble County, Ohio, where he became a farmer. He served in the Civil War, in Company B, of the Seventy-seventh Ohio Regiment of Volunteer Infantry, and as a result of hard service in numerous battles he lost an eye. When he died, he was living at Marietta. Mrs. Hutchinson was Sarah Miller in maidenhood, a native of Ohio, and she died at Marietta. She was the mother of six children, and five are now living.

L. M. Hutchinson, the youngest and the only one in California, was brought up on the farm and received a good education at the public schools. He was also awarded a teacher's certificate, and when twenty-one began teaching school in Washington County, Ohio. He followed the profession of a schoolmaster for nine years, and withdrew from that field only to engage in the oil business in Monroe County, Ohio. He commenced with the Henry Oil Company, worked up from the bottom, and became a well driller, continuing with the Henry people for six years. Then he was employed by Franchot Bros., at Graysville, in Monroe County, drilling for them for a while, later becoming their foreman.

He was with this firm for six years, and then he was transferred to Kiefer, Okla., where he took charge of their work, taking hold of it from the beginning there. For about two years he was their superintendent at Kiefer but in 1909 he resigned on account of his health. He was advised to come to California; and this change led to his speedy improvement.

Arriving at Coalinga, he was made foreman of the Unity Oil Company, remaining for two years, when he came with the North Pole Oil Company



Frank Espritier

to redrill their well and in three months he was made superintendent of the property, and he still occupies this responsible position. Much of its notable output has been due, it is safe to say, to this progressive and conscientious workman. For twenty-five years he has been a worker, foreman, and superintendent in oil fields and has never missed a pay day.

Mr. Hutchinson has been twice married, the ceremony both times taking place in Ohio. His first wife was Ava Schofield before her marriage, and she was born in the Buckeye State. She died at Elk Fork, W. Va., the mother of three children: Noble enlisted in United States service but was rejected because of being under weight, is now a mechanical engineer in Oklahoma; and Earl who is in the United States Naval Reserve and served overseas; and Ethel, who is at home. Miss Olive Stants, a native of Pennsylvania, became Mrs. Hutchinson at the second marriage.

While at Stafford, Ohio, Mr. Hutchinson was made a Mason, and he is now a member of Coalinga Lodge, No. 387, F. & A. M. He also joined the Odd Fellows at Woodfield, Ohio, and the K. O. T. M. at Sistersville, W. Va. He belongs to the Coalinga Camp of the Modern Woodmen of America, is a member of the Christian Church, and votes as a Progressive Republican.

FRANCOIS ESPITALIER.—In far-away Gap, a beautiful resort in the Sampson Valley, among the Hautes-Alps, Francois Espitalier was born on January 6, 1870, the son of a farmer who thoroughly understood agriculture, having received the benefits of a long line of farm-tradition and who, having a progressive mind, had experimented and learned for himself. About 1893 he died, the honored father of eight children. His good wife, who was Madeline Escallier, a school companion from the same village of Gap, lived to be seventy-four and passed away in 1917.

Francois, the second eldest of these children, and the only one now living, was brought up on a farm and attended the public school of his locality. Under normal circumstances, he would probably have followed in his father's footsteps and remained at home to till the rich French soil, but he had three uncles—brothers of his mother—who had migrated to California and were residing in Fresno County, and as soon as he was old enough to formulate plans, he decided to cross the waste of waters and join them. He was only sixteen years of age when he prepared to take this momentous step.

In December, 1886, he arrived in Fresno, and at once began to work for his uncle, Louis Escallier, who was in the sheep business. He remained with him for a year and a half, and then he bought a band of 2,000 ewes and continued in the sheep business for thirteen years. The dry seasons hit him hard, however, and especially the year of great drought, 1894, when he had 7,000 sheep on hand, but he stuck to the business and eventually was able to sell out without suffering the disaster so common to many.

In 1899, Mr. Espitalier went into the hotel business, and in order to carry out his ideas, he built the well-known hostelry at the corner of G and Mariposa streets, the Capitol Hotel, long regarded as one of California's best-appointed stopping-places. This hotel was completed in 1901, and he has managed it ever since, giving it his personal attention, and more and more bringing it into line with the best in the State. It requires something more than experience to be a good hotel-manager, and Francois is lucky in having that genial personality which makes his guests, on departing after a good rest and refreshment, wish to come again.

But Mr. Espitalier did not limit himself to the hotel business, even when he found that the Capitol was destined to enjoy such popularity. In 1901 he bought forty acres in the Helm Colony and engaged in viticulture. He set out muscat and malaga grapes, making a fine vineyard, and planted five acres as a peach orchard. He spared neither pains nor expense, and he now boasts of as trim a ranch as may anywhere be found. He works hard for himself

but he also works for others, and no one is more active in support of the California Associated Raisin Company.

In Fresno, Mr. Espitalier was married to Miss Eugenia Baztera, a native of the Basque country in the north of Spain, who came to America, and Fresno, when she was twenty-two. Soon after, in improving his vineyard property, he built for his wife and himself the handsome residence they occupy, and with his increasing success, he acquired other residence property in Fresno. As the years have gone by, fortune has smiled upon the Espitaliers and they have many friends who rejoice in their prosperity.

NICK FABRIS.—The oldest business man in Firebaugh is Nick Fabris who has been active in the building up of and improving the place and a continual booster for Fresno County. He was born at Cittawechia, Dalmazia, Austria, February 14, 1867. His father, Vincent Fabris, was a shoemaker, who died in his native country. His widow survived him, coming to San Francisco where she resided until her death. Nick Fabris received a good education in the public schools of his native place. After his school days were over he learned the shoemaker's trade under his father and became an exceptional shoemaker. Having a desire to cast in his lot on the Pacific Coast as soon as he was through with his apprenticeship he came to San Francisco arriving April 22, 1885. Here he worked at the trade for a time but it was not long before he had a shoe store of his own, his business place being located on Broadway between Dupont and Stockton, continuing business there until 1894. During this time he took out his naturalization papers and became a citizen of the United States. In 1894 he came to Madera, but his efforts there evidently did not meet with success for he came to Firebaugh in 1895 with only fifteen cents in his pocket. Nothing daunted he immediately found work on the Miller & Lux ranch and a month later he bought a building only 8x10 and here he started a shoe shop. His masterful workmanship was appreciated and his business grew, making him so successful that a few years later he purchased a liquor establishment—and still later he built a store and started in the general merchandise business in which he has met with success. He has prospered and invested in Firebaugh property where he owns thirty-six lots and has built six residences. He also owns two residences in Fresno and two acres on Milton Avenue, the same city, devoted to raising Thompson seedless grapes. He also owns The Five Mile House in South San Francisco.

In Fresno, in 1901, Mr. Fabris was married to Miss Margareta Vraginzan who was born in his native place, a woman of much business ability. Mr. Fabris was one of the original trustees of the city of Firebaugh and is still serving in that capacity having served as chairman of the Board two terms. He is an active member of the Firebaugh Merchants Association and also a member of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. Fraternally he is a member of Mendota Lodge Knights of Pythias, the order of Druids and the Foresters of America, having joined the latter order in San Francisco nearly thirty years ago. In his political affiliation he is a Republican.

ARTHUR PRENTICE MITCHELL.—An experienced and widely-known oil man who is popular because of his progressive views, is Arthur Prentice Mitchell, who was born in Sedalia, Mo., on September 7, 1883, the son of John Mitchell, who first saw the light in Hickory County, the same state. He was an industrious farmer, but he died when Arthur was only three months of age. Mrs. Mitchell, who was Lillie Bernard before her marriage, was also a native of Missouri, and now resides in Coalinga, the mother of only one child, the subject of this sketch.

Arthur was brought up in Warsaw, Mo., and there attended the public schools; and when he was about fourteen, he made the long trip to California and in this distant West began to paddle his own canoe. He settled at Fillmore, Ventura County, and for a while worked on a cattle ranch when, for five years, he rode the range, familiarized himself with that branch of agri-



S. L. Lawrence,

cultural life and grew strong and healthy, after which he turned to the oil fields for more promising returns.

At first, he worked for the Union Oil Company at Fillmore, and then at Union; and next he was sent to a station at Olinda, near Fullerton, for the Santa Fe Company. He learned how to be a tool dresser and a well puller, and in time was made foreman well puller. In each of these departments of activity he began at the lowest round of the ladder and made himself proficient in any detail.

In 1908 Mr. Mitchell came to Coalinga in the employ of the M. K. and T., and then he went with the Commercial Oil Company as production foreman and continued with them until 1910. In that year he entered the service of the Maine State Oil Company and succeeded L. G. Guiberson as superintendent; and since then he has put down six new wells on their 160-acre lease, so that the company now has a good production of oil. He is also in charge of the Guthrie Oil Company's forty acres, and their production.

Fraternally, Mr. Mitchell is a member of the Coalinga Aerie of Eagles, No. 387, and he is also a member of the Growers Club.

SAMUEL LANFRANCO.—No better subject could be selected, to illustrate the success of California's intelligent and enterprising vineyardists, than Samuel Lanfranco, the raisin-grower of Fresno County, who was born in Asti, Piemonte, Italy, on October 28, 1873. He was only seventeen when he came to America and at the end of 1890 he moved west to California, where he worked for three years in a rock quarry at San Leandro Mountain, in Alameda County. The next three years he spent in coal mines in British Columbia, after which he returned to California and engaged in the liquor business in San Francisco and Oakland. He arrived in Fresno in 1903, when he bought the Cosmopolitan Hotel at the corner of Fresno and G streets. This he still owns and conducts with his partners, D. Rampone, G. Marsirio and G. Sachetto.

But it is in land development and grape-growing that Mr. Lanfranco has accomplished most. He started in 1907 to buy ranch property, purchased twenty acres in Arizona Colony, partly improved, and later bought twenty acres adjoining. These two tracts he has greatly improved, planting sultana and Thompson seedless, and raising thirty tons of raisins in 1918. He also owns twenty acres in Roeding Villa Colony, eight acres of which he has set out in peaches, and twelve with vines. In addition, he holds title to a thirty-acre grain-ranch in the Muscatel District. In 1915 he bought a forty-acre vineyard near Kerman, and after improving this, he sold it, in November, 1918, at a good profit. Besides his ranch holdings, he owns three houses in Fresno, near E and Merced streets.

Mr. Lanfranco was married to Linda Ferraris, a native of Italy, by whom he has had four children: Isador, Edmund, Edna, and Italia. The family attends St. John's Catholic Church. Mr. Lanfranco places a high value on education, and leaves nothing undone that may contribute to the advancement of his children, or the benefit of others, for being self-made, he is naturally progressive. He makes his home on the ranch in Arizona Colony, having improved the place with a fine dwelling-house. For twenty years he has been a member of the Knights of Pythias.

BENJAMIN L. SIMS.—Identified with the grocery business of Fresno for nearly thirty years is Benjamin L. Sims, who was born near Murray, Calloway County, Ky., April 30, 1871, a son of Phillip W. and Martha J. Sims, who are now old settlers of Fresno County, making their home in Fresno. In 1874 the family removed to Valley Mills, Bosque County, Texas, where Benjamin went to school and assisted on the ranch until they moved to Fresno in 1887, and here he again attended the school in the city. After his school days were over he entered the employ of Kutner & Goldstein on June 13, 1889, continuing with them for a period of five years and eight months; he then clerked

for Holland & Holland for twenty months. Having decided to engaged in business on his own account he quit his position in 1899 and started a grocery store at 1129 Van Ness Avenue. His brother, Edwin E., being his partner, they did business under the firm name of Sims Bros. After six years they sold out to the Rochdale Company in 1905. He then engaged in ranching, having purchased a farm on California Avenue, nine miles west of Fresno where he raised alfalfa and had a dairy, and while thus engaged became a stockholder in the Danish Creamery Association. In 1912 he sold his ranch and disposed of his cows and purchased a vineyard and orchard near Clovis owning forty acres, twenty of which was devoted to raising malaga grapes and peaches. In 1915 he sold twenty acres of the ranch and moved to a peach orchard he purchased on Chittenden Avenue, Fresno, a place he still owns.

In 1916 he again engaged in the grocery business, purchasing a residence and store building on the corner of Fresno and Tyler Streets, where he was successfully engaged in business until June, 1918, when he sold the stock and rents the store. Since that time Mr. Sims is in the real estate business in Fresno, handling both city and farm property.

In Fresno in 1892 occurred the marriage of Mr. Sims and Laura Musick, who was a daughter of the late Jasper N. Musick and was born at Academy. She completed her education in the Fresno High. Mr. and Mrs. Sims have been blessed with three children: Jesse P., served in Company D, Three Hundred Sixteenth U. S. Engineers in the Ninety-first Division overseas for nine months, having the rank of Sergeant, first class; Marshall P., a graduate of Heald's Business College, and Robert B., attending Fresno High.

They are members of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church in Fresno. While living in Nees Colony he was a member of the Board of Trustees of Nees Colony School. In early days Mr. Sims was a member of the Retail Grocery Association and the Chamber of Commerce and he is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

GEORGE KRUSE.—This progressive rancher and his cultured wife, to whom he gives much of the credit for their financial success in Fresno County, have won a name and place for themselves in the locality where they live. George Kruse was born in Tarlyck, Samara, Russia, November 16, 1880, a son of Henry and Mary (Deis) Kruse, both natives of the same province and who are farmers. The oldest of three living children, George attended the schools and at the age of seventeen was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith trade. In September, 1899, he came to Dorchester, Wis., and in April, 1900, we find him in Fresno County, working on a grain-ranch to learn all he could of the ways of ranching in California; this he continued two years.

On February 19, 1904, he was married to Miss Maggie Weber, born in the same Russian town, and the oldest child and daughter of Peter and Mary (Herman) Weber, Russian-Germans and farmers who eventually came with their family to California. Peter was a rancher at Fowler, then located at Oleander. After his marriage Mr. Kruse continued ranching, working at baling hay, etc., until he saved enough to buy some land, which he did near Fowler, in partnership with Mr. Weber. One year later he sold to Mr. Weber and engaged in grain-raising at Tranquillity until the water came in and he left the place to start over again. He bought twenty acres on Coalinga Avenue, near California, in 1907, located on it and made valuable improvements, erecting buildings and setting out trees and vines, and he now has ten acres in Thompsons.

Mr. and Mrs. Kruse have four children: Henry, Marie, Harry and Edward. The family belongs to the Lutheran Evangelical Church. An advocate of progress and cooperation, Mr. Kruse belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company. By hard work and good management Mr. and Mrs. Kruse have won success and are enjoying life in their country home eleven miles west from Fresno City.



James A. Perry



Mrs. Perry

JAMES ABNER PERRY.—Among the early settlers and prominent men of Fresno County, was James Abner Perry, born in Tennessee, in 1837. When a youth he came to Arkansas, where he grew to manhood. In 1857, he and his father and other members of the family joined an ox-team train, crossing the plains. The senior Perry brought some fine horses of the Morgan breed, a strain of most excellent and valuable horses still found on the Perry ranch. Before arriving at Salt Lake, the train divided, some taking the route that led to the massacre of their party at Mountain Meadows, while the Perry family continued with their leader, old Captain Fancher, and arrived safely in California, thus escaping the horrors of the Mountain Meadow massacre, by the Indians, in 1857.

James Perry mined for a time, then located on Kings River, where he farmed and raised cattle, his ranch being in the Eureka, now the Round Mountain district. On February 25, 1880, he was married at Academy to Miss Martha Ely, born at Talladega, Ala., a daughter of Merritt and Sophronia (Blasingame) Ely. Her father was a planter and died in Alabama, leaving a family of nine children whom Mrs. Ely brought to California in 1876. She located a claim on Little Dry Creek, where she began improvements. This she afterwards sold and moved to Kings River, making her home there for many years. She spent her last days in Fresno and died at 829 O Street. Mrs. Perry is the second oldest of their nine children, five of whom are living; she received her education in the public schools in her native state.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Perry continued farming on their ranch on Fancher Creek, and there Mr. Perry died, on December 31, 1899. He was a prominent and highly esteemed citizen. Six children were born to them: Caroline Ethel, a graduate of the Fresno State Normal, is teaching at Tollhouse; Constance S. is assisting her mother; Bernice, who is Mrs. A. W. Green, resides near Tollhouse; Lyman runs the Perry ranch for his mother and is meeting with deserved success; Ruth, who is Mrs. Shafner of Clovis; and Hazel, who is also at home.

Since her husband died Mrs. Perry has continued the stock-raising and farming, being assisted by her children, her son Lyman being now in charge of operations. They have added to their landed holdings and now have 606 acres in the Round Mountain district and 160 acres at the head of Watts Valley, besides her homestead of 160 acres in Burroughs Valley, which she has improved with a residence. The ranches have fine springs and are valuable stock farms. Mrs. Perry is among the old-time settlers and is well posted on early-day history, and is an interesting conversationalist, being enthusiastic for the preservation of incidents and personal history of early days. She is a Presbyterian in religion, and both she and her late husband were greatly interested in the cause of education, Mr. Perry serving as trustee of the Eureka school district.

CLARENCE JOHN HILL.—The manager of the Oil Well Supply Company at Coalinga, a native son of the Golden West, is Clarence John Hill, born near Armona, Kings County, January 11, 1888. His father, John Hill, a pioneer of the San Joaquin Valley is represented on another page in this work.

Clarence J. was reared in Kings County until 1898 when he came with his parents to their homestead on the Jacolitos, and from a lad assisted his father on the ranch. His education was obtained in the school at Mussel Slough, Jacolitos district and at Coalinga. In 1904 he began work on a hay baler but three months later he quit to assist his brother, A. B. Hill, in the hay, grain and wood business in Coalinga having charge of the business for eighteen months while his brother was the postmaster at Coalinga; at the same time Clarence was a clerk in the postoffice. When his brother sold out to the Coalinga Hay, Grain and Fuel Company (Bliss & Downing) he managed the business for them a year and then they sold to Runsey Baird and soon afterwards he went to work for C. N. Sanderson also a hay and grain mer-

chant. A month later he was offered a position with the Oil Well Supply Company; he began work February 20, 1907, and three weeks later the manager, S. R. Bowen, offered him a place in the office. He became a close student of the business and was advanced to assistant manager under Mr. Bowen, holding the same position, under his successor, Mr. Turner, and on the latter's resignation, November 15, 1912, Mr. Hill was made local manager a position he has filled ably and well ever since. They have a large warehouse and store building in the heart of Coalinga on the railroad reservation where they undoubtedly have the most extensive stock of oil well supplies in town. In Fresno, February 11, 1911, Mr. Hill was married to Miss Lillian May Wehe of Los Banos. Fraternally he was made a Mason in Coalinga Lodge No. 387, F. & A. M., and was exalted in Coalinga Chapter No. 114 R. A. M. With his wife he is a member of Eschscholtzia Chapter, O. E. S. He is also a member and past officer of Independent Order of Redmen in Coalinga and of the Growlers Club. He is active in the Coalinga Chamber of Commerce and the Coalinga Business Men's Association.

N. H. FUGELSANG.—A liberal-hearted and progressive ranchman in Fresno County, is N. H. Fugelsang who was born in Fyen, Denmark, on February 6, 1866. His father was H. J. Knudsen, who was also born there in 1821. One of four boys in the family, he fought the Huns in the War of 1848-50, serving in the Danish army. Mr. Fugelsang's mother had been Marie Petersdatter before her marriage, and she was a native of the same place as her husband. The farm of the parents was named Fugelsang, and so they took that for their family name. The father died in 1883, and the mother in 1888. They had twelve children, and six of them grew to maturity.

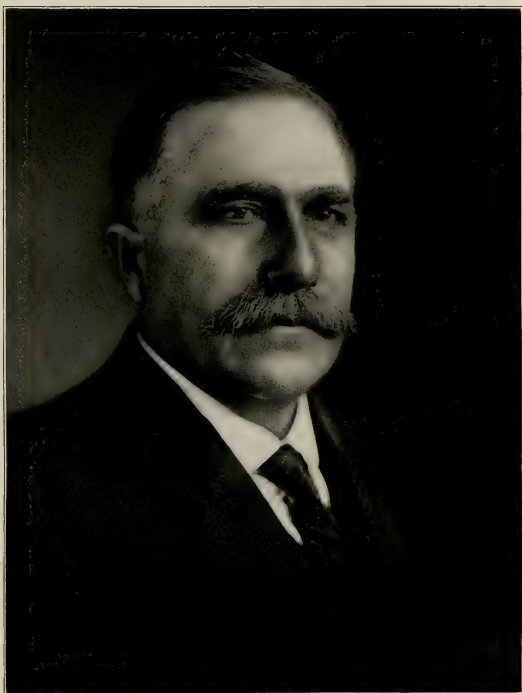
N. H. Fugelsang was the second oldest and was brought up on the home farm. He attended the public schools, and he also enjoyed a high school education. Having finished school, he entered the Danish army in 1888 and served in the Nyborg Fifth Regiment of Danish Infantry, as bugler, in the Third Company, Nineteenth Battalion. After serving his time, and on receiving his honorable discharge, he was also honored with the best rifle record in his company. On returning to civil life, he engaged in farming.

In 1892, however, Mr. Fugelsang came across the ocean to America, and continuing West to California, arrived in Fresno on April 26, 1892. Here he was soon employed in a vineyard in the Madison district, and for eight months he worked out at twenty-five dollars a month. Then he worked for another eight months in another vineyard.

In 1895, he bought his present place of forty acres on Johnson Avenue, to which he at once moved. He also rented eighty acres in Fresno Colony, and with characteristic enterprise, ran the two. He made many improvements which enhanced the value of the property, even resetting vines and trees. Ten years later he bought another forty acres, adjoining, and now he owns a splendid tract of eighty acres, all in vineyards and orchards. There are eight acres in peaches, and the balance in Muscat and Thompson grapes, all under fine irrigation, and there, also, he has his residence.

On May 16, 1896, Mr. Fugelsang was married at Fresno to Miss Minne Paulsen, who was born at Ribe, in Denmark, and who through her childhood experiences and familiarity with Danish life and customs is a worthy companion. Her father, Niels Paulsen, also served in the War of 1848-50 against the Germans, after which he was a contracting painter and decorator in Ribe. Mrs. Fugelsang came to Fresno in 1887. They have had four children: Marie, now a bookkeeper and stenographer, is a graduate of Heald's Business College; Sofus and Viggo, both assisting their father on the ranch; and Niels.

Mr. Fugelsang belongs to Fresno Chapter No. 5 of the Dania, of which he is Past President, and he is also a member and Past President of the Danish Brotherhood, having also been a delegate to the national convention of the Brotherhood held at St. Paul in 1915. In addition, he belongs to the Woodmen



N. H. Fugelsang.

of the World, while Mrs. Fugelsang is a member of Thora, Ladies' Auxiliary Lodge Dania, No. 11, of which she is Past President.

As a public-spirited citizen, Mr. Fugelsang has always taken an interest in politics, and he usually works under the banners of the Republican party, throwing aside party lines in local issues. For thirteen years he was a school trustee in the Madison district, and he has always been identified with the raisin and fruit association movements. He now belongs to the California Peach Growers, Inc., and to the California Associated Raisin Company, in which he is a stockholder. He is a director in the Scandinavian Mutual Fire Insurance Company, and is the company's appraiser, as well as vice-president of the local ditch company. One of the original stockholders of the Danish Creamery Association, he is now serving as president of its board of directors.

JOHN E. SMITH.—One of the oldest settlers of the West Side and the longest in years of service with Miller & Lux in Fresno County is John E. Smith one of the best posted men on early days and happenings in the part of the County where he resides. He was born in New York City, November 15, 1837, where he was reared, receiving a good education in the schools of that city. When eighteen years of age he came to the Pacific Coast, came to Fresno County in 1875 and immediately found employment with a sheep grower at the Sink of the Panoche on the West Side. Here he applied himself and obtained the experience that has made him so valuable as superintendent of the sheep department for Miller & Lux. April 11, 1880, he entered their employ and has since been steadily with them except three years spent in San Francisco when he again returned to Miller & Lux in his old capacity, his territory extending over an area from Stockton to Tulare. During these years he has at times had as many as 150,000 head of sheep. The company, through his years of experience now raise their own pure-bred bucks, which takes in eleven different breeds of sheep. His headquarters are at the Dillon ranch near Firebaugh.

FLORENCIO SERRANO.—A very liberal and enterprising man is Florencio Serrano who was born in Aincioa, Navarra, Spain, September 22, 1877, a son of Miguel and Vicenta (Villanueva) Serrano, who reared their family on the farm where they made their residence until their death. Florencio is the eldest of their five children, three of whom are living. In 1898 he came to Fresno County, Cal., arriving February 9th. For two years he was in the employ of a sheepgrower on the West Side and then made his way to Elko, Nev., and a year later removed to Wellington, Nev., where two years more was spent working for a sheepman. Having accumulated some means he purchased a flock of sheep and ranged them in Nevada until 1907 when he sold his flock and returned to Fresno County, entering into partnership with his uncle, Miguel Villanueva, since which time they have continued in the business. They own 160 acres in Cantua where Mr. Serrano resides and they also own a sixty-acre alfalfa ranch in Tranquillity where Mr. Villanueva makes his home with his family.

In Fresno, July 27, 1908, Mr. Serrano was married to Miss Braulia Yturri, a native of Mesqueriz, Navarra, Spain, a daughter of Francisco and Martina (Morillo) Yturri; she came to Fresno in 1907.

Mr. Serrano is a stockholder in the Growers National Bank of Fresno.

CHAS. H. MORTON.—A man who has done his share to improve and build up Fresno County is Chas. H. Morton born near Quincy, Ill., August 23, 1859, the fourth oldest of nine children born to Benjamin and Nancy (Cole) Morton, natives of Ohio and New Hampshire, respectively, who were farmers in Adams County, Ill., where Chas. H. was reared and received a good education in the public schools. His health became somewhat impaired and he came to Los Angeles, Cal., in 1886 and a year later located in Fresno County. He liked the climate and his health improved. Purchasing twenty acres in the Wolters Colony he began improvements, later selling it at a profit; then he bought five acres in the West Fresno tract which he after-

wards sold and then purchased eighty acres on the corner of Belmont and Coalinga Avenues, where he built his home and made substantial improvements with a pumping plant adequate for raising alfalfa. Having leveled and improved the ranch and brought it to a high state of cultivation he sold it at a very satisfactory price in March, 1918, and again bought twenty acres in Wolters Colony which he also sold. He now owns a small pear orchard at Atascadero, San Luis Obispo County, which he has purchased for a home site. Mr. Morton is a member of the Seventh Day Adventists Church at Rolinda.

HENRY BRICKLEY.—Occupying a leading place among the prominent attorneys of Fresno, Henry Brickley, a native son, has won recognition at the bar by his close attention to cases that have been intrusted to him. Pleasant, liberal and progressive, he is an important member of the community in which he resides, and is contributing his full share of good order, high principles and all of those things that insure the welfare and prosperity of city and county. A son of the late John Brickley, he was born June 28, 1876, at Liberty, Fresno County, of Irish ancestry.

John Brickley was born and reared in the city of Cork, Ireland. When a young man he came to America and settled in Chicago, Ill., where he followed his trade of carpenter and builder. He enlisted in an Illinois regiment for service in the Civil War, and just before the surrender of General Lee, was wounded in the right leg. In 1866 he came across the plains to California and for two years he and his wife were residents of Truckee, Nevada County. Coming then to Fresno County, he was engaged in farming and sheep raising for a few years. He died in Madera County in 1879. His wife, before her marriage, was Miss Sarah McCormick, also a native of Ireland. She died in Fresno in 1908.

Henry Brickley was the third child in order of birth of four children born to his parents. He attended the public schools, graduating from the Fresno High School in 1897, after which he attended the University of California, taking a course in Social Science, during which time he majored in law. For two years he was a reporter on the staff of the Fresno Republican, during which time he studied law and on September 12, 1900, was admitted to the bar of California, since which time he has been actively engaged in the practice of his profession and has been uniformly successful in building up a good practice and a large clientele. Always a Democrat, he has served on the Democratic County Central Committee and has been a delegate to county and state conventions. In 1904 he was a delegate and attended the National Democratic Convention in St. Louis at the time of the nomination of Alden B. Parker as candidate for president.

He is a charter member and past president of Fresno Parlor No. 25, N. S. G. W., and a member of the Fresno County Bar Association. Mr. Brickley gives his attention to both civil and criminal law and has met with well deserved success in his management of same. He holds an enviable position among the lawyers of the San Joaquin Valley. During the war, he tendered his services as an attorney to the local committee and did his duty in other ways, to help win the war.

HENRY ALBERT HECHTMAN.—As financial agent of Fresno County, Henry Albert Hechtman is prominent in business and social circles. His father is A. J. Hechtman, a native of Minneapolis, and his mother is Carrie C. (Van Matre) Hechtman, a native of Trinity County, Cal., and the daughter of Peter Van Matre, who crossed the plains with ox-teams in 1849, commencing his long journey in Wisconsin. A. J. Hechtman came to California when he was a young man, and both parents now reside at Willow.

Henry Albert was born in Los Angeles on March 2, 1882, and in that progressive city he laid the foundation for his education at the public schools. Later he put in three years at Throop Polytechnic, and this was supplemented by

studies for a year at Stanford University and then at the Van der Nailen School in San Francisco, where he made a specialty of electrical engineering and accounting.

Having thus equipped himself for professional work in one of the most important of modern fields, Mr. Hechtman followed electrical engineering in California, Nevada, Oregon and Mexico, for seven years after which he engaged in the real estate business in San Francisco. In April, 1906, attracted by the advantages of Fresno, he came to this city and for four years was employed as track foreman of the Fresno Irrigated Farms Company, when he became manager and had his full share in the proper development of Fresno's valuable acreage.

In 1914 Mr. Hechtman resigned and soon afterwards was made deputy county auditor under Charles E. Barnum; and in July, 1915, he was appointed to his present responsible position; later on the supervisors made him county statistician and both places he is filling with ability.

In Tonopah, Nev., on August 12, 1905, Mr. Hechtman was married to Miss Gertrude Ganser, by whom he has had two sons—Jack and Jim. He is a Democrat in national politics, and a leader in political councils; first, last and all the time he is an enthusiastic endorser of every movement making for the development and uplift of the county in which he resides. He was made a Mason in Kerman Lodge No. 420, F. & A. M., and belongs to the Fresno Consistory, No. 8 Scottish Rite, and to Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. of San Francisco. He also belongs to Fresno Lodge No. 439, B. P. O. E., and Fresno Lodge No. 486 of the I. O. O. F.

Mr. Hechtman is interested in viticulture and has improved a twenty-acre ranch from raw land in the Dakota Colony, which he has set to Thompson seedless grapes.

BURT B. LAMKIN, M. D.—Prominent among the eminent physicians of Fresno County to whose scientific training and special scholarship much of the fame of Central California is undoubtedly due, may be mentioned Dr. Burt B. Lamkin, a member of the city Board of Health of Fresno. He is an ex-member of the Board of Medical Examiners for the U. S. Army in District No. 2, on which committee he served ably during the recent war, and a member of the Fresno County Medical Society, to the presidency of which he was elected in 1919. Making his way since he was fourteen years of age, and rising by undeniable merit, Dr. Lamkin is today famous for his treatment of the eye, ear, nose and throat, and as such a specialist enjoys prestige throughout the State.

He was born at Woodland, Cal., on July 21, 1876, the son of G. C. Lamkin, a native of Nebraska, who married Miss Sally B. Burks in Missouri, and came to California about 1874. About 1882 or 1883, the lad's mother moved to Fresno, and here Burt grew up. When fourteen, he was engaged by Postmaster N. W. Moodey as a clerk in the Fresno Postoffice, and when he was eighteen, he began an eight-year service in the railway mail department. During this time, having graduated from the Fresno High School, he matriculated at the Cooper Medical College at San Francisco; and there, while running with the mail trains, he began the study of medicine and surgery. It is not surprising that such resolute persistence enabled him to graduate with honors in 1902.

Then he became an interne in a San Francisco hospital, where he served for a year. Returning to Fresno, where he had already had some experience as a member of the staff of the County Hospital, he opened offices in the Forsyth Building and began a general practice in medicine and surgery. At the end of six years, Dr. Lamkin went East and at the celebrated Chicago Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat College, he took post-graduate work, and was house physician for six months. Coming back to Fresno again in 1910, to which city his fame as an aggressive young scientist had preceded him, he

limited his practice to diseases of the eye, ear, nose and throat, in time moving into larger and better-appointed offices in the Rowell Building.

On April 26, 1908, Dr. Lamkin was married at Academy, Cal., to Mrs. Annie Sample Tipton, an accomplished daughter of D. C. Sample, the prominent cattleman and banker mentioned elsewhere in this historical work, and built a handsome residence at 975 Yale Avenue. He belongs to the Fresno Commercial and University Clubs, and is one of the most popular of Scottish Rite Masons.

Dr. Lamkin divides his time and energies between his patients and the work of the State and national medical associations, in whose programs he takes an active part. He takes a deep interest in both the civic and commercial progress of Fresno, and foresees great prosperity for Central California's metropolis.

WM. M. GOYETTE.—A successful rancher and stockman of Friant, Wm. M. Goyette was born near Sutton, Brome County, Province of Quebec, July 12, 1860. His father Amos Goyette was of French descent and his mother Margaret Gordon was of Irish descent. Wm. M. is the second oldest of the thirteen children born to his parents eight of whom are living. Our subject and his brother Arthur who resides in Pomona are the only ones of the family in California. He was reared on the down east farm on the Vermont state line, having good school advantages. Remaining home until twenty years of age, he then worked on a farm in Vermont afterwards in Massachusetts until 1883 when he came to Pomona, Cal., arriving on December 28, of that year where for several years he was employed on a grain ranch. February 7, 1889, in Pomona he married Miss Elizabeth Maddock a native daughter of California born in Oakland. Her father, Morris Maddock, being a pioneer of California. After his marriage he engaged in farming and in time owned a ranch southeast of Pomona on which he obtained the first artesian well in the district and installed a pumping plant for an irrigation system, meeting with merited success. In 1910 he traded his property for his present ranch of 920 acres four miles east of Friant, locating on it in 1911, devoting it to raising hay, grain and cattle, in which he is very successful. Mr. and Mrs. Goyette have four children: Loretto and Linus, assisting on the ranch; Amos was in the One Hundred Sixteenth United States Engineers, Ninety-first Division, serving overseas and Lorean, a graduate of the San Francisco State Normal now a teacher in Fresno County. Mr. Goyette is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters and is clerk and trustee of the Millerton school district.

E. L. CHADDOCK.—Not every man associated with a well-established business can boast that his house is the only survivor of all who saw sturdy service in their field in early days, but this is the pride of E. L. Chaddock, the president of Chaddock & Company, the veteran fruit packer of Fresno. His father founded the trade here and was one of the first packers of dried fruits and raisins in the city of Fresno; and of all the competitors at one time engaged with them, Chaddock & Company is the only "old-timer" left. Enjoying, in addition, a wide reputation for square dealing, it is no wonder that Messrs. Chaddock & Company are among the most flourishing concerns in Fresno County. Their offices are at 301-303 Rowell Building, but in addition to their packing house at Fresno, they have a fully-equipped seeding plant at Fowler.

Mr. Chaddock was born at Union City, Branch County, Mich., on January 16, 1873, the son of E. G. Chaddock who came to California in 1888—at the height of the "Boom"—and settled in Fresno. Two years later he embarked in the raisin-packing business, establishing an independent company never associated with any trust. In 1891 our subject became connected with the firm, and upon the death of his father, in 1915, he succeeded to the presidency. He had been graduated from the Fresno High School with the first class to leave that

splendid institution, and he has been identified with the raisin and dry fruit packing ever since. E. G. Chaddock was a New Yorker, and he married Miss Matilda Le Valley, also a New Yorker.

At Oleander, Mr. Chaddock was married to Miss Rose M. Nicholson, of that city, a daughter of Dr. A. R. Nicholson, a pioneer physician of Oleander. Two children have blessed their union: Albert E. and Mary L. The Chaddocks reside at 625 Weldon Avenue.

Mr. Chaddock is a Mason and an Elk, but he is especially enthusiastic in his recreation about the Shaver Lake Fishing Club, its sport and its fun. Gen. M. W. Mueller is the president of the Club; Mr. Chaddock makes a live-wire vice-president; and W. D. Noble is its secretary.

MAX KNITTEL.—A member of the Board of City Trustees of Firebaugh as well as the agent for the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph Company is Max Knittel a very enterprising and public-spirited man. He was born at Malchin, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Germany, April 16, 1882, the second oldest of five children born to Wilhelm and Louise Maltzahn, farmer folk who are now retired and living comfortably in the vicinity of the scenes of their labors. Max Knittel was reared to habits of industry and thrift and from the time he was a boy made himself generally useful on the farm. His education was in the public school and the Gymnasium where he acquired a high standing as a student. In 1901 he entered the army serving in the Second Cavalry Regiment No. 18 and he was honorably discharged in September, 1904. He had made up his mind to migrate to the United States so in March, 1905, he came to Firebaugh where a brother had preceded him in 1898. He entered the employ of Miller & Lux and was soon made foreman, a position he retained until 1910 when he resigned to engage in the hotel and restaurant business in Firebaugh, which he has continued successfully ever since. He is also agent for the Pacific States Telephone and Telegraph Company, as well as a member of the City Board of Trustees of Firebaugh. Politically he is a staunch Republican.

A. J. QUIST.—A thoroughly progressive dairy farmer who has made his own way in the world since he was ten years old is A. J. Quist, who came here from Ferndale in Humboldt County, in the fall of 1917, having lived in the North for the ten years previous. Now he owns 100 acres two miles northwest of Caruthers.

He was born in Fredericia, Denmark, on October 16, 1886. His father, J. S. Quist, had a small farm of only six acres, and his mother, who was Mette C. Ostergaard before her marriage, had nine children. Both parents and all the children are still alive. Owing to their financial circumstances each child had to do something for a living, and A. J., who was the fifth in order of birth, began to work out away from home at farm labor when he was only ten years old. He was brought up in the Lutheran Church, and at twenty years of age entered the military service of his native country and was assigned to the heavy artillery.

In 1908 he left Denmark and came to Ferndale, landing first at Quebec and crossing Canada on the Canadian Pacific. From Victoria he sailed south to San Francisco on the steamship President. He worked on a ranch at Ferndale for two years, and then bought out a dairy herd and for another two years sold and delivered milk there. He next bought a dairy farm of fifty-five cows, and helped to organize the Wild Flower Creamery, and for four years was on its auditing committee.

While at Ferndale Mr. Quist was married to Miss Annie Maria Lund, who was born at Bunker Hill in Humboldt County, and is a daughter of the late J. N. Lund, proprietor of the Citizens Furniture Company of that place. One child, Carlton Lund, was born of this union.

Having a chance to sell his lease of the dairy farm he operated near Ferndale, Mr. Quist did so; and because he had come to know of the ad-

vantages offered by Fresno County through several visits here, the first being in 1915, the year of the World's Fair at San Francisco, he moved to Central California. In the fall of that year he bought forty acres known as the H. M. Bonickson Ranch, to which he has added sixty acres more. These 100 acres he is now checking and leveling, and will sow to alfalfa.

Owing to a vacancy caused by the resignation of K. Lauritzen, a director in the Caruthers Cooperative Cheese Association, Mr. Quist was appointed in his place; and upon the resignation of the president and manager, H. R. Kamm, who moved to Fresno, he was elected president and manager, and he is still filling those offices. He takes great interest in the association, which manufactures a fine quality of full cream cheese that commands the top-notch prices on the market.

While farming near Ferndale, Mr. Quist helped to organize the Humboldt County Cow Testing Association, of which he served as president from 1914 to 1918. This soon became the leading cow testing association in California, proving up the milk from four thousand milch cows by means of the Babcock test. He also took an active part in the work of the Humboldt County Farm Center.

Mr. Quist helped to organize the Caruthers Branch of the Fresno County Farm Bureau, of which he is now president. Dr. George A. Meracle is its secretary and there are fourteen farm centers in the county.

JOHN ALLISON WARD.—An honored pioneer of Perrin Colony No. 6, or Arizona Colony, John Allison Ward, now deceased, was one of the first settlers of this section of Fresno County. A native of the Buckeye State, John A. Ward was born in Xenia, Green County, Ohio, February 6, 1839, a son of Joseph Campbell Ward, a native of Ohio, whose ancestors were of an old Virginia family, members of which served in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812. His mother, in maidenhood, was Sarah Elizabeth Stevenson, born in Ohio, of Virginia ancestors. She was a granddaughter of Gen. Hugh Mercer, who was killed during the Revolutionary War at the Battle of Princeton. Her grandmother was a daughter of Mr. Kirkpatrick, who came to America with William Penn, and was one of the men who purchased the land which afterwards became the state of New Jersey. Father Joseph C. Ward was an Ohio farmer who removed to Illinois locating near Monmouth, later migrating to Iowa settling near Clarinda, where he spent his last days, his death occurring in 1875, his wife passed away about 1881 in Chicago.

John A. Ward was educated in the public schools of Illinois. On April 12, 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Elizabeth Williams, born in Philadelphia, Pa., January 22, 1840, a daughter of Moses R. and Rachel Kinney (Black) Williams, natives respectively of Chester, Pa., and Milford, Del. The Williams family was of Welsh descent and pioneers of Pennsylvania; the Black family was from Scotch ancestors, members of the family having served in the Revolutionary War. Moses R. Williams was a businessman of Philadelphia, where he was a manufacturing furrier and hatter. In 1857, Mr. Williams moved to Monmouth, Ill., where he established a harness and saddlery business and died there in 1875, his wife preceding him, having passed away in 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Moses R. Williams were the parents of six children, only two of whom are living: Mrs. John A. Ward, and Mrs. Rebecca Newman who resides with her sister.

Mrs. John A. Ward was educated in the public schools of Philadelphia, and after her marriage she and her husband operated a farm in Illinois, until 1870, when they removed to Cass County, Mo., and for four years there engaged in raising stock. Later they removed to Kansas City, Mo., where Mr. Ward became a stock-dealer. In 1893, Mr. Ward became greatly interested in California from reading the glowing accounts of the sunshine and flowers and salubrious atmosphere of the Golden State. His health becoming im-

paired, he decided to take a trip to California and came to the Golden State in 1893. Upon his arrival he wrote to his family, saying: "I have struck Paradise and will never go back to Missouri." While in Los Angeles he became interested in Fresno County and determined to go there and investigate conditions for home-settlers. He was so pleased with the advantages of Fresno County that he purchased twenty acres of raw land in Perrin Colony No. 6. The next year, 1894, his family joined him and assisted in the improvement of the place, setting out a peach orchard, also planting some apricot and orange trees.

John A. Ward did not live long enough to enjoy the full fruition of his plans concerning his California home, for he passed to his eternal reward June 28, 1898. He was a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, fraternally he was a Mason and was Past Master of Temple Lodge, No. 370, F. & A. M., at Kansas City, Mo. After his death the widow and daughter continued to operate the ranch. Mr. and Mrs. John A. Ward were the parents of two children: Georgia May, now the wife of J. C. Nourse, and James Curtis Ward who assisted in the care of the home ranch until 1906 when he became superintendent of the Red Banks Orchard where he continued until he passed away, January 26, 1910. Mrs. Nourse, with her mother, owns and resides on the home place; she was educated in Kansas City and graduated from the Kansas City high school. Her first marriage occurred in Kansas City, when she was united with William Secker, a native of Canada. She made her first trip to California in 1894 and in 1897 moved here. In 1903 occurred Mrs. Secker's second marriage to J. C. Nourse, a native of Carson City, Nev., and son of Judge George A. Nourse, who was Attorney General of Nevada Territory, afterwards he moved to Oakland and then to Fresno where he became a prominent attorney.

Mrs. Nourse is the mother of two children by her first marriage: Georgia Pearl Secker, a graduate of Stanford University in 1918, and also a graduate of the State Library School at Sacramento, and now an assistant in Stanford University Library; and Frederick Ward Secker, a graduate of Fresno High School, and who was a member of the Reserve Force of the United States Navy, where he filled the position of an electrician of the first class. Being discharged from active duty he has resumed his former position with the Santa Fe in the signal department.

Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Nourse continue to operate the ranch and are specializing in peaches, of the Muir and Alberta varieties, as well as sultana grapes and figs. Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Nourse are pioneer horticulturists of this section and have demonstrated that oranges can be raised in this district. They have nearly an acre of oranges on their ranch and have been very successful in raising a good quality of fruit. They believe that both climate and soil are conducive to raising oranges in this section. They were among the early members of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and are stockholders in the organization. Their home ranch is one of the show-places of the community.

GEORGE SNYDER.—An energetic farmer who has succeeded as a horticulturist and viticulturist, and by so doing has advanced California agriculture and has added to the wealth of the state's improved resources, is George Snyder, who was born near Volks, Samara, Russia, on November 9, 1883, the son of George Schneider, who was a farmer there. One of his sons had come out to the United States and to Fresno County as early as 1900 and two years later the father brought his wife and the balance of the family to California and settled in Fresno. Here he engaged in farming and viticulture, and such was his reward that he is now able to live retired. Barbara Schneider, his wife, also lived for years in Fresno County, and here she died, the mother of four boys and two girls. Lizzie is Mrs. Busick of Fresno; Peter is a rancher near Barstow; Christine has become Mrs. Baude of Fresno;

George is the subject of this review; and Conrad and Henry are ranchers not far away.

George was brought up in his native place and educated there in the public schools; and when he was eighteen years of age he came, in May, 1902, to Fresno County. He soon went to work on a fruit ranch for one dollar and a quarter a day, but although he had to board himself, he saved and got ahead. For two seasons Mr. Snyder worked at haying for Robert McIndoo, and when the latter sold out, he bought a team and outfit on time, and started teaming in Fresno. A year later he purchased a hay baler, and for nine seasons he teamed a part of the year and contracted to bale hay for the rest of the time. Then he leased an orchard and a vineyard of 120 acres at Parlier, where he went into partnership with Charles Scharer. He had previously raised grain on leased land with his brother Henry, thus acquiring some experience of value later, and then he had bought forty acres in Barstow, which he set out with Thompson seedless grapes and three years later sold at a profit. He and his partner now took charge of this peach orchard and vineyard of Thompson and Muscat grapes; but when the property was disposed of, they had to relinquish the lease.

In 1916, he bought his present place of eighty acres in Barstow from Al Munger, and at once turned it to horticultural and viticultural purposes. He has twenty acres of apricots set between olive trees, and thirty acres of Elberta and Muir peaches, as well as Lovells; the peaches also being interset with olives. He also has a vineyard of thirty acres of Thompson grapes. His ranch is under an almost perfect system of irrigation; besides being under the Herndon Canal he also has a pumping plant. Mr. Snyder belongs to and actively supports the California Associated Raisin Company, the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Olive Growers' Association.

On June 17, 1905, Mr. Snyder was married at Fresno to Miss Pauline Steitz, born in Fresno, a daughter of Daniel and Catherine (Seifert) Steitz, one of the first of eight families from his native land to locate in Fresno in 1887. Mr. Steitz became gardener for Einstein & Gundelfinger, also janitor of the Bank of Central California. He died in 1903. A widow and four daughters survive him, of whom Mrs. Snyder is the oldest. She was educated in the Fresno schools. They have one daughter, Elsie. The family belong to the Free Cross Lutheran Church.

JOHN BAHRENFUS.—Prominent among the aggressive members of the California Associated Raisin Company, is John Bahrenfus, who was born near Davenport, in Scott County, Iowa, in 1854, the son of Lawrence Bahrenfus, of Holstein, then Denmark and later Germany. He married Lucy Bachsen and was a carpenter and builder. About 1851 he located in Hickory Grove Township, Scott County, as a farmer, and later removed to Grinnell, Poweshiek County, where he bought a farm on which he died. Mrs. Bahrenfus died there also, the mother of six children, three of whom are still living. John was the third youngest, and is the only one in California.

When he was ten years old the family moved to Grinnell, and there he attended the public schools. He remained home to assist his father on the farm; and when, in his nineteenth year, his father died, he ran the farm for his mother as long as he remained single.

On October 2, 1884, he was married at Grinnell to Miss Ella Schultz, who was born near that town, the daughter of Fred and Mary (Harmon) Schultz, who were born, respectively, in Illinois and Ireland. They were farmers in Poweshiek County, and have a farm of 640 acres, with plenty of fine stock. The mother died when Mrs. Bahrenfus was three years old, and the father in his seventy-second year. Of the two children, she was the elder, and attended the public schools, afterward going to Grinnell College.

For two years Mr. Bahrenfus leased land, and then he bought 160 acres in Hamilton County, and went in for grain and stockraising. Later he sold



A. R. Ham.

this and moved to Iowa Falls, where he purchased a farm; but on account of ill-health he removed to Missouri, settling near Parnell in Nodaway County. The climate proved too cold for him, however, and he concluded to come to California.

In the fall of 1905, he located in Fresno County near Kerman, and in January, 1906, he bought his place of twenty acres, now so attractive on account of its fine vineyard of Thompson seedless grapes. At first he had an orchard of apricots and peaches; but it was not a success, and he dug the trees up. He built a residence and put up other buildings and installed machinery. He became a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company.

Four children blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bahrenfus: Fred L. is a rancher at Biola; Lena, who has become Mrs. Oliver, lives in Nodaway County, Mo.; Ella is Mrs. Frank Jenkins, and resides at Vinland; and John J. was a soldier in the National Army at Camp Lewis, now honorably discharged. The family grew up in the Lutheran faith.

In 1919 Mr. Bahrenfus purchased a fine up-to-date bungalow at 390 Temple Avenue, Long Beach, where he and his family are now residing. The latch string continues to hang out to welcome their numerous friends.

I. R. HAIN.—A young man who is meeting with merited success in his undertakings is I. R. Hain, who was born in Pleasant Valley, Reno County, Kans., July 14, 1883. His father, William H. Hain, was a native of Wales, Maine, was a man of education and a scholar, being a graduate of Boudoin College, and for many years engaged in educational work and lectured in Illinois, then in Kansas, Nebraska and Washington. He resided in Reno County, Kans., then in Beatrice, Gage County, Nebr., then in Portland, Ore. For many years he lived in Cowlitz County, Wash. He studied law and was admitted to the bar and practiced law; his ability was soon recognized and he was elected a member of the State legislature. However, his natural desire for change of place and travel asserted itself and he again came East, finally stopping for a time in Indian Territory, where he engaged in farming in the Cherokee Nation. Afterwards he went to Massachusetts, but finally returned to Kansas, where he spent his last days. Mr. Hain's mother was Ida May Fletcher, born in Bath, Maine, and she now makes her home in Arkansas City, Kans. They were the parents of five boys and one girl, all of whom are living, our subject and his twin brother, Harrison, of Arkansas City, Kans., being the middle of the group.

I. R. Hain received a good education in the public schools of their various places of residence, afterwards entered the Nevada Business College in Nevada, Mo., where he was graduated at the age of nineteen. He assisted his father on the farm in Indian Territory until January, 1905, when he came to Visalia, Cal., and for a short time he worked on a ranch, then was in the employ of the Diamond Lumber Company for about two years, after which he came to Fresno, where he was steadily engaged with the Pierce Lumber Company for three years. Having a desire to own land of his own he came to Huron in 1911 and homesteaded 160 acres three miles south of town, which he improved and farmed, performing the requirements of the law and obtained title. During these years he also leased lands and engaged in raising wheat and barley. Meeting with success, he purchased other land and now owns 520 acres. He leases land at Helm and sows about 640 acres a year to grain and for the purpose uses the latest and most modern implements,—including a sixty horse-power Holt caterpillar and a combined harvester. In 1915, in partnership with N. Semper and Mr. Clavine, he built a warehouse at Huron, and a year later they purchased Mr. Clavine's interest. The warehouse is known as the Semper and Hain Warehouse, of which Mr. Hain has the management. In 1916 he also purchased the Miller and Cherry warehouse in Huron, which he also runs. Not content with all of these interests he found time to branch out and in 1919 he started in the general merchandise business in Huron, putting in a new and well selected stock of goods and

from this point manages his many affairs, and buys and ships grain. He is postmaster at Huron, as well as deputy county clerk and deputy constable, and during the war was chief registrar. Being interested in having good schools he is serving acceptably as school trustee of Huron district. It will be readily seen that Mr. Hain is a very busy man, but capable of ably handling his varied interests. Of a pleasing personality, well posted and well read, and with a retentive memory, he is a very interesting person to meet. Fraternally, he is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Visalia.

LEWIS G. GATCHELL.—A self-made man who modestly goes his way in the performance of every day duty, is Lewis G. Gatchell, the wide-awake and ever-genial manager of the Coalinga Ice Company. He was born in Fulton Township, Lancaster County, Pa., on December 19, 1887, two miles from where Robert Fulton was born. He attended the usual grammar and high school courses, and finally studied at the State Normal school at Millersville, where he was graduated in 1908.

All his life, however, he had the "California fever" and in the spring of 1908 he borrowed enough money to bring him to the Golden State. Stopping at Coalinga, he secured employment with the Coalinga Ice Company, when their small plant was located where the Southern Pacific Railroad depot now stands; and he has been in their employ ever since.

After a while Mr. Gatchell's worth was recognized in a special degree, and he was made assistant manager; and since 1910 he has been in full charge of the plant. Modern in every way, with a capacity equal to the requirements of the community, this ice company is a business of which the town may well be proud.

George Aydelott, whose home is in Hanford, and who is president of the company, was its founder and builder; and now the plant turns out ten tons of ice every twenty-four hours.

Mr. Gatchell spends much of his spare time in the mountains with rod and gun. He owns 240 acres of land south of Henrietta, and rents 1,200 acres more; and on this acreage he ranges cattle. This he has found more profitable than grain farming, to which he gave his time and energy in previous years. He expects soon to retire from ice making, and to give himself up entirely to the raising of cattle. In August, 1918, he enlisted in the United States Army, serving in the Eighty-second Machine Company at Camp Kearney until after the armistice when his application for a discharge was granted. He returned to his old position, January 3, 1919.

Mr. Gatchell was married to Lena Story in 1915, who was born in Whittier. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gatchell are popular socially, and he is a member of the Hanford Elks.

PETER J. WOLF.—As a horticulturist and viticulturist Peter J. Wolf is doing his share toward increasing the value of Fresno County real estate.

Mr. Wolf was born in Chenoa, Ill., on September 26, 1881, and is the son of Jacob and Annie (Fredericks) Wolf. His parents came to San Francisco in 1887, and after sojourning there for three or four years removed to Fresno County with their family, where the father was employed on a vineyard in West Park for a time. He afterwards homesteaded 160 acres on the West Side, sixteen miles south of Mendota, and engaged in farming and stock-raising until he proved up on his homestead. He then located in Empire Colony, leased land owned by the Bank of California and was engaged in raising grain and as an orchardist and vineyardist. Later he purchased 100 acres of the place he was leasing and turned his attention to horticulture and viticulture, and assisted by his sons, made a success of the vocation, setting out about fifty acres of vines. He was one of the trustees of the Empire school district. He finally disposed of his interests and located in Fresno where he died in 1910, aged about fifty-six years. His wife also died in Fresno in 1908. Of their seven children six are living; Peter J. is the eldest; George



L. D. Scott

is a rancher on the old home place; Dan is a rancher on Madera Avenue; Annie is Mrs. Hayes, and resides in Sebastopol, Cal.; Josephine is Mrs. Vought of Fresno; and Jacob, who entered the United States Army in October, 1917, and was assigned to the Regulars, went overseas in December, 1917, and is now in the Army of Occupation.

Peter J. was reared in California and educated in the public schools of Fresno city and county. From a youth he assisted his father on the farm. When twenty-two he bought twenty acres on Shields Avenue in Empire Colony and engaged in orchard and vineyard culture and in raising alfalfa. In 1910 he sold the twenty acres and purchased a place of forty acres, at seventy-five dollars per acre, located on Thompson and Shields Avenue. He improved the place, built a residence, set out an apricot and peach orchard and a vineyard; later he purchased twenty acres adjoining his place, paying \$200 an acre for the property. He set it to Thompson seedless vines. In the summer of 1918 he sold this sixty acres at a good profit and then purchased twenty acres, paying \$250 an acre, adjoining his other eighty on the south. This he has improved with a fine residence. In 1916 he purchased forty acres across the road from his former place, paying \$125 per acre for it. It cost him sixty-five dollars an acre to level the land and get it in shape. This is also well improved and is still owned by Mr. Wolf. In 1917 he purchased two twenty-acre pieces adjoining his forty, paying \$125 an acre for one of the pieces and \$200 an acre for the other, and this property he is improving for vineyard and orchard. He is one of the oldest settlers in the neighborhood, and served one term as trustee of the Empire school district. In his political views he is a Democrat. He is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and has been a member of the California Associated Raisin Company ever since it was first organized.

Mr. Wolf was married on October 21, 1903, to Miss Etta Price, born in Texas, and there educated and they have eight children: Goldie, Leona, Viola, Vernon, Lorene, Bernice, Raymond and Opal.

HON. L. D. SCOTT.—More than prominent in his time as a broad-gaged statesman who did much to shape the affairs of the great commonwealth of California, and long to be remembered both for his exceptional integrity and sagacity, the late Lorenzo Dow Scott has a place in the hearts of his fellow-citizens and contemporaries such as anyone, and ambitious American youth in particular, might well covet. He was born at Clinton, Ill., on January 4, 1847, and was just sixty-eight years old when, on the fourth of January, 1915, he took the oath of office as member, from the fiftieth district, of the forty-first session of the California state assembly.

He grew up in Illinois, attended the public schools there, and in time engaged in farming. In that state, too, on March 28, 1878, he was married to Miss Florence A. Persinger, a native of Sydney, Ohio, where she was born the daughter of William and Eliza Persinger. When seven years old she came to Illinois, where she attended the Kinney High School.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott had four children when they came to California in 1886, the youngest two in their family being born in California, and they settled at Del Rey in Fresno County, which was then known as Clifton. There Mr. Scott improved a farm; but in 1891 they moved to Selma. He had a vineyard at Del Rey, but when he moved he engaged in the dairy business, and undertook to run the creamery which has since given way to the peach and raisin industries.

Having successfully built up for the time, the dairy interests at that place, he associated himself with the management of the First National Bank at Selma and for many years was its vice-president. He was also, as a good judge of land values, the bank's appraiser. His discernment, together with his honesty and frankness, won for him and the institution he represented many friends.

Called by his fellow-citizens, and with a most complimentary vote, to represent them in the State Legislature, he served his time and worked hard for his constituency; but he was taken sick, in July, 1915, and died on the fifteenth of the following month. He had always been much interested in agricultural affairs, the reclamation of lands, public morals, and similar subjects, and he never lost a moment, as his speeches well show, in working to attain for others what he regarded as ideal ends.

All the six children of Mr. and Mrs. Scott are living, and well reflect the qualities of sterling character for which their parents were always so widely and highly esteemed. Harry W. is a vineyardist and stockman living near Selma; and he married Lillian Stout, of Reedley. Nanna Myrtle is the wife of Dr. R. B. Spalding, of San Francisco. Louis W. is a vineyardist and resides on South McCall road in Selma with his wife, who was Miss Charlotte Griffey of that same place. Dr. Roy N. Scott is a stockman, vineyardist and veterinarian, and graduated from the veterinary college at Chicago. He married Miss Pearl Schrack of Selma, by whom he has had two children, Jean Leana, and Marlyn Pearl and they reside on North McCall road; Netta Persinger became the wife of Robert G. Holton, and lives at Los Angeles, where Mr. Holton is engaged as an oil refiner for the Turner Oil Company, of which he is secretary and treasurer; she has one child, John Pomeroy. Ralph H. is a rancher and resides at Kerman, with his wife, who was Miss Laura Forsberg of Kingsburg before her marriage, and they have two children, Harriet Ann and Lorenzo Dow.

Mr. Scott was a self-made man, for his father died when the subject was only eight years old, and he being the eldest boy, had much responsibility thrown upon him in the problem of helping his widowed mother and the children—a large family, eight children. He was always a hard worker, and an active and able man and citizen that Fresno did well to honor. He was particularly highly respected at Selma, where Mrs. Scott now lives, having rented out her own residence and ranches, which are valuable. Public welfare work occupies her attention constantly, and her first thought is for the Red Cross and other charitable and philanthropic enterprises. She is a pillar in the Christian Church at Selma, and helped with a liberal hand and a willing heart in building the magnificent edifice of that denomination in this town.

CHARLES N. SANDESON.—An early settler in the Coalinga district, a rancher and stockman of the progressive type who does things on a splendid scale, is Charles N. Sandeson, a Nova Scotian by birth, who was born in Colchester County on June 22, 1875. He was reared and educated in the East, and as a young man followed mill work and lumbering.

When he was just twenty-one, in 1896, he arrived in California and at once entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad at Bakersfield, from which place he was transferred to Coalinga in 1897. For four years he was section foreman of that district.

He next became local agent for the Union National San Joaquin Ice Company at Coalinga, and then he engaged in the butcher business, opening the Crescent Meat Market, which he ran for a couple of years and sold to Kreyenhagen Bros. For the next ten years he was engaged in the hay and grain business, and for that purpose he built a warehouse on E Street, between Fifth and Sixth Streets. He also engaged in teaming to the oil fields, employing thirteen men and sixty head of horses and mules. He bought and sold mules and horses; and as he has always been a lover of horses, he still owns a few fine specimens of high grade draft horses.

Mr. Sandeson next bought a ranch of seventy acres at Story, Madera County; and there he has developed one of the best dairy farms in all the valley. He has a herd of thirty Holstein cows with a pure-bred registered

bull, that he bought at the Panama-Pacific Fair at San Francisco in 1915. The buildings are lighted by electricity, and the power used for the machinery is also electrical. Pumping plants draw from two wells, and bring all the water needed to a concrete head-gate.

Mr. Sandeson owns a one-third interest in two warehouses at Story—one he erected, and the other he bought from Rosenthal & Kutner. He owns 640 acres of a mountain ranch formerly the old Fowler place, located in Warthan Canyon above Coalinga, and he rents the John Frame ranch of 920 acres adjoining the Milton Douglas ranch of 640 acres, and the Harly Joslyn place of 320 acres, and there he ranges cattle. As a cattleman operating extensively he still finds time for ventures in other fields, and in partnership with Jacob Zwang, under the firm name of Sandeson & Zwang, he farms about 4,000 acres of rented land near Pleasant Valley which he has planted to barley. On this farm he has every modern farming equipment, including Holt harvester and caterpillar engines; and he owns a quarter interest in a ranch of 423 acres on Bear Creek, in Merced County, which is partly in grain, while the rest is devoted to pasture. He possesses an eighty-acre ranch near Lemoore, Kings County, and there he has corrals and barns for his stock. He owns his own home, in Coalinga, and six town lots, besides the warehouse.

At Oakland, September 28, 1899, Mr. Sandeson married Mary Sandeson, a lady of the same name, but not related, who was also born in Colchester County. Mr. Sandeson is a member of the Elks lodge at Hanford, and the Masons at Coalinga, having been made a Mason in Lemoore Lodge, No. 255, F. & A. M. He is a member of the California Cattle Growers Association, and became one of the directors of the Coalinga National Bank; and when it was consolidated with the First National Bank, was elected a director therein and still holds that office.

JAMES RANSOM WEBB.—The city of Fresno has been favored in possessing many able and brilliant members of the legal fraternity. Among these the Honorable James Ransom Webb, Superior Judge of Fresno County, stood at the head of his profession. A broad-gauge, self-made man, a successful lawyer and a man of high standards of integrity and honor, he was born near Steelville, Crawford County, Mo., February 17, 1847—in the calendar month in which so many famous men have been born. Brought up on a farm, as many of our successful men have been in their early life, he studied law as a young man and began practising at the bar in the early seventies, in his native state, specializing in civil and probate practice.

He was united in marriage with Miss Lillie W. Jamison, a native of Steelville, Mo., January 31, 1877, and in the fall of 1882 came to Fresno, where he continued the practice of his profession, and where, four years later, his wife died. Following her death Judge Webb returned to Missouri to reside, and was associated with Judge A. Seay at Union, Mo., for one and one-half years. In 1888 he returned to Fresno and in 1893 was appointed to the position of Superior Judge of Fresno County by Governor Markham. After completing the term of two years he was elected to the bench and served for eight years, retiring from office January 1, 1901. He then moved to San Francisco, where he continued the practice of his profession until the summer following the big fire of April, 1906, when his valuable law library was completely destroyed. Returning to Fresno he again resumed active practice of the law, which he continued up to the time of his death, on July 29, 1916.

Judge Webb was married a second time, on December 31, 1900, to Miss Mary Imogene Anderson, who at the time of her marriage was engaged in educational work in Fresno, and who, since the Judge's death, has resumed teaching in the city schools. Mrs. Webb is an active member of the First Presbyterian Church and an ex-president of the Wednesday Club, the oldest study club in the valley.

MRS. SARAH C. BYRD.—The revered memory of an extensive pioneer rancher, the late John H. Byrd, long a prosperous and highly-respected citizen, is revived in a study of the life of his esteemed widow, Mrs. Sarah C. Byrd, who resides in her beautiful home at 632 North Van Ness Avenue, Fresno, after a life of strenuous, hard work on their farm of 5,000 acres in Clark's Valley, the home ranch, conducted in connection with some 3,000 acres of excellent, subirrigated land east of Sanger in the Kings River Valley. Mr. Byrd was born at Canton, Cherokee County, Ga., on May 8, 1837, and came of a family prominent for generations in Southern history. He was the grandson of Thomas Byrd, a native of Virginia, who took up farming in Cherokee County, and became a leading planter of tobacco. As an expert millwright, he constructed several mills for water power throughout the state, and with his land holdings became very influential in that part of the country. A son Nathan, also a native of Virginia and reared in the Old Dominion and Georgia, became the father of John H. Byrd. He, too, raised tobacco in Georgia, but in 1847 he removed to Arkansas, and until his death he conducted a cotton plantation seventeen miles south of Little Rock. He married Miss Eliza Jones, a native of South Carolina, and a daughter of Caleb Jones, a Spartansburg planter, who later moved to Canton, Ga., and became an extensive agriculturist. Mrs. Byrd, a devout Baptist, passed away in Arkansas in 1901, the mother of eight children, the eldest of which was John.

Having begun his schooling in the primitive schools of Georgia, John Byrd was taken as a lad of ten to Arkansas and there resumed his education in an even more primitive log school. In 1857, he went on horseback to Texas, and remained at Sherman until the following April, when he joined the Keener ox train for California. They took the southern route by way of Las Cruces, N. M., passed by Fort Yuma, and finally reached Los Angeles. On October 24, 1858, Mr. Byrd arrived at Visalia, and the day before Christmas he went to work for Francis Jordan on his ranch. After two years, he bought 160 acres on the Kings River bottom, and there began to raise hogs.

He was so successful that in 1870 he bought land in Clark's Valley and commenced general farming and stockraising. He raised sheep for a time, but sold out to embark in raising high-grade Herefords and shorthorns; and from a capital of twenty dollars in gold when he arrived at Visalia, he steadily accumulated, by his own efforts, a handsome competency. In 1896 he located at Fresno, and there bought an elegant residence at the corner of O and Tulare streets.

At Kings River, in 1870, Mr. Byrd was married to Miss Sarah C. Robinson, who was born in Boone County, Mo., on August 29, 1854, the daughter of John Robinson, a native of Lexington, Ky., who had married Miss Harriet Phillips, a native of St. Charles County, Mo. In that county they were united in wedlock, and then they moved to Boone County, where Mr. Robinson farmed. They had two children, Sarah Catherine and Virginia Ann, now the widow of J. B. Cravens, a pioneer of Sanger, still living at that place. With their two children, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson came across the plains, driving their stock, in a train of ox and mule wagons. They started from Boone County, and were six months on the way, and reached Carson City, Nev., in September, 1859. Going to the Sacramento Valley, they raised stock; but at the outbreak of the Civil War, Mr. Robinson returned to Missouri and enlisted as a Confederate soldier, and served throughout the War. He returned to California in 1865, and then the family came to Fresno County and settled on the Kings River; and there, after years of success as a farmer and stockraiser, he died, on August 10, 1902, and was interred in the Kings River Cemetery beside his good wife, who had died two years before.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Byrd went to live in Clark's Valley, Fresno County, where their twelve children were born. Harriet Eliza is the



Dr. H. Ryd



Sarah B Byrd

wife of Alonzo Stewart, a rancher residing in Colusa County; and they have two children, Byrd and Ellen, both of whom are married and have offspring. Ellen Virginia is the wife of Charles Doyle, a dealer in monuments, marble and granite work, and resides at Fresno. They have four children—John H., Marian Gertrude, Francis, James. Charles H. Byrd is treated in detail in another sketch in this historical work. Catherine died when thirteen years old, and two infants also died. John Walter, in business in Fresno, married Beryl Corlew; they reside in Fresno and have two children—Floris and Loraine. Lucy A. is the wife of Lee Sims, a rancher at Kerman, and the mother of six children—Leota, William, Walter, Lee, Mattie and John. Thomas R., a rancher of 1425 College Avenue, Fresno, married Viola Burk, by whom he has had two children—Walter and Richard. The ninth in the order of birth was an infant, who died, and then came Marie, now the wife of Frank McCarthy, who has just returned from the War, where he was in the motor transport service. They own a ranch on Kings River, a part of the old Byrd estate, and they have two children—Newton and Lloyd Byrd. Another child died in infancy, while the twelfth and youngest was Newton P. Byrd, whose life is also reviewed in this work. Mrs. Sarah C. Byrd has thus lived to see twenty-three grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

On the death of Mr. Byrd, on October 5, 1913, Mrs. Byrd became the administratrix of his estate. At the distribution of the property, three of the heirs, Newton, Walter and Thomas took their respective shares in the land; but Mrs. Byrd and the other children still own 4,800 acres in Clark's Valley and the 1,700 acres in Kings River Valley, under the management of the oldest son, Charles H. In time, Mrs. Byrd bought her home on Van Ness Avenue, and there the old-time Byrd hospitality continues to be dispensed. She was brought up in the Christian Church, but now belongs to the Presbyterian Church.

SOREN PAULSEN.—A member of an old Danish family that has become transplanted to California, and an American by adoption who may proudly boast of being the brother of probably the first soldier from Fresno County to make the supreme sacrifice in the late war, is Soren Paulsen, the well-known farmer who owns a fruit ranch of twenty acres two and a half miles west of Parlier. He was born at Ribe, Denmark, on November 5, 1881, the son of Paul Paulsen who was a farmer in Denmark, and also a musician. He died in his native country, in 1903, fifty-three years old, lingering long enough to permit our subject, who was then a journeyman cabinet maker at work in Germany, to return home and reach his bedside. Mrs. Meta Marie Paulsen, the mother, is still living at Ribe.

Eleven children were born to these worthy parents, and of that number six are residing near Parlier, one in San Francisco, one is in Denmark and two are deceased. Marten, the rancher near Parlier, and Clause, a farmer in Denmark, are twins, and Anna, the oldest daughter, is the wife of Jess Andersen, a rancher near Parlier. Inger is now Mrs. Ben Tobiasen, the wife of another rancher in the Parlier district, while the fifth in the order of birth is Soren, our subject, Maren died when she was two years old in Denmark, and Niels M. is a rancher near Reedley. Marius is a carpenter and builder at Del Rey; Kristine is the wife of W. Kallerup, the restaurateur of San Francisco; Knud E. has been a corporal at Camp Stewart, U. S. A., in Virginia; while the youngest was Hans H. Paulsen.

He was born in Denmark and came to Parlier only three years ago. He was single and made his home with Soren Paulsen. Anxious to do his bit in the great war, he entered the service as machine gunner and went to France in 1917. There he had an extensive experience in actual service, and in time was transferred to the celebrated "Rainbow Division." On July 27 he was struck by a high explosive shell and instantly killed—the first soldier from Fresno County to fall, so far as is known, in actual battle.

A touching incident relative to the death of the young hero, Hans H. Paulsen, may here be narrated. Besides some other means of his own, he carried \$10,000 worth of insurance on his life, and had made our subject his trustee. The last wishes of the deceased are now being carried out, and the money is being remitted to the aged mother, still living in Denmark, to whom, in her sixty-seventh year, it will prove a God-send in lieu of the affectionate son lost.

Soren grew up on the home farm in Denmark, and when fourteen years of age was confirmed in the Lutheran Church. He was apprenticed at Ribe to the cabinet makers' trade, and served from 1896 to 1900, working for his room and board. Becoming a journeyman cabinet maker, he worked at Fyen and Langland, in Denmark, and at Hamburg, Hanover and other places in Germany, and at the end of two years, came home at the time of his father's death.

Naturally athletic from the time when he was a boy, Soren Paulsen became a master coach or trainer at the gymnasium at Ribe, and when he traveled in Germany, he took a deep interest in German athletics. On his return to Denmark in 1906, he attended the athletic training school, the high school Ryslinge, and entering the Danish Army in 1904, served there for eight months.

In 1907 he sailed from Copenhagen on the steamship, Oscar the Second of the Scandinavian-American line, and landed at New York on May 1, leaving almost immediately for the West and Parlier. He and his brother Marius worked as carpenters, but he had to borrow money to buy tools. He also learned the English language, and he can read, write and speak the Danish, English and German tongues. He has done much reading in general, and is well-informed. He continued to work at his trade until 1912.

In the meantime he and his brother had bought this place of twenty acres, in 1909, but after his marriage, in 1912, he bought out his brother's interest. He has fifteen acres in Muscats and the rest in seedless grapes and alfalfa, and has erected a dwelling house. He is a member of the California Raisin Growers Association.

When Mr. Paulsen was married, he chose for his bride Miss Christine Andersen, a native of Pierce County, Wis., and a daughter of John and Anna (Pilegaard) Andersen, both of whom were born in Schleswig-Holstein. After marrying in Denmark, Mr. and Mrs. Andersen came to America and settled in Wisconsin. There they farmed and reared a family of six children, of whom Mrs. Paulsen is the fourth child in the order of birth. In 1906 they came to California and settled south of Parlier, where the parents are still living. Mrs. Paulsen was thirteen when she came to the Pacific Coast. Two children have been granted Mr. and Mrs. Paulsen: Ellen Marie and Evelyn Irene. Mr. Paulsen is a member of the Danish Brotherhood, of which he is a past president, and both he and his wife belong to and attend the Lutheran Church. He is a naturalized American citizen, and a Wilson Democrat.

JOHN D. MORGAN, JR., M. D.—If there is one institution of Fresno County in which the public has a solicitous and abiding interest it is the County Hospital, under the immediate charge of Dr. John D. Morgan, the medical director and superintendent. A native, not only of California, but of Fresno, where he was born on October 16, 1889, Dr. Morgan was the son of John D. and Mary L. (Hartsough) Morgan, natives of Georgia and California, respectively, both of whom are still living. His father settled here over forty years ago, followed a business career, and later was both constable and chief of police.

John D., Jr., was educated in the grammar and high schools of the city, and after graduation from Fresno High, 1909, he then entered the department of medicine of Vanderbilt University, from which he was graduated in 1913,

with the degree of M. D. He then went to San Diego where he practiced for a year.

On July 24, 1912, in Fresno, Dr. Morgan was married to Miss Hazel E. Beall, daughter of George Beall, and one child—J. D. Morgan, 3rd, has blessed the union. Dr. and Mrs. Morgan by religious faith are protestants. He belongs to the Masons and the Eagles.

A year after he had returned to his home town, Dr. Morgan, who is a Democrat, believing in devotion especially to the place of one's residence, was appointed, in January, 1915, to his present position; and since then he has been reappointed. He is a member of the University Club; and he belongs to the County, State and American Medical Association, being Vice-president of County Medical Society at present time. He is also a member of the Gamma Eta Kappa high school fraternity of Fresno, the Phi Chi Medical Fraternity and Phi Kappa Sigma Literary Fraternity, his membership in the two latter being in the chapters at Vanderbilt University.

THOMAS HANSEN.—Highly respected as an industrious, generous citizen with a wide reputation as a pioneer horticulturist and viticulturist, is Thomas Hansen, the retired rancher who is now quietly enjoying life at 3006 South Harvard Boulevard, Los Angeles, whither he removed February, 1918. His father, Hans Nilsen—for in Denmark the son takes the father's first name, adding "sen", meaning son—was a small land owner and carpenter, who lived and died in that country. His mother, who had been Katrine Petersen, also lived and died in Denmark.

Born in the village of Tvilde, on the peninsula of Jylland, Denmark, on May 7, 1847, the fifth child in a family of nine, four of whom were girls, Thomas grew up in the parish of Aastrup, where he worked by the year for farmers. There he was educated, being early confirmed in the Lutheran Church. He steadily advanced in the mastery of his work, and in his twenty-fourth year he went to Schleswig, where he engaged as a farm hand at Bolderslev; here he continued for six years.

Mr. Hansen then entered the Government Forest Service, planting sandy heathers in Denmark to forest trees, and giving them scientific care. After a while he was made superintendent of a private company, backed by the Danish Government, holding that position a year. Then he went back to Bolderslev and reengaged at farm work for his former employer.

A year there sufficed him, however, and he set sail from Hamburg, for America, landing at New York in November, 1878, and going on to Portland, Maine, having friends and relatives there. The following February he came to St. Helena, Napa County, Cal., where he worked on farms for a year and ten months.

The large Danish colony at Fresno soon attracted him, and there he secured a position as superintendent of the first vineyard in Fresno County to produce Muscat grapes. This was owned by four ladies, the Misses Austen of San Francisco, where they were public school teachers. Each had twenty acres, located side by side three miles south of Fresno; and the combined acreage was called the Hedge Row Vineyard. This was the first raisin vineyard managed on a commercial scale. Mr. Hansen remained there as director for a year, and then he bought twenty acres of ground for himself that he immediately planted to grapes and alfalfa, at the same time that he set out an orchard.

In 1883, Mr. Hansen disposed of his California holdings and recrossed the continent and the ocean to visit relatives and friends in Schleswig and Jylland. Happily, both parents were still living. It was during this visit that he met his future wife, Katrina Callesen, of Schleswig, the daughter of Danish parents. Miss Callesen and seven others eventually came to America, reaching Fresno on September 10, 1883; and on November 25, of the same year, she was married at Fresno to Mr. Hansen.

Buying another twenty acres of raw land, Mr. Hansen made a fresh start. He planted and improved the acreage, and he also built for himself a comfortable house; and there his four eldest children were born. They were Eli, Walter, Petra, who died at the age of seven, and John C. Selling this homestead, Mr. Hansen bought a place of fifty-two acres six miles west of Selma, near Monmouth, which he so well improved that on January 22, 1918, he sold it for \$23,000. There two more children were born—Oscar, who died when he was fourteen months old, and Elva, now nineteen, who lives at home. Mr. Hansen then built a bungalow in Selma, living there several years. Eli went to pay his parents in Los Angeles a visit prior to his departing for the war. He was taken ill with the "flu" and died October 12, 1918. Walter, married Miss Ada Mason of Fresno County. They have one child, Walter Oscar; John C. married Miss Mable Schultz of Selma, and a detailed sketch of their lives is elsewhere in this work.

As soon as the law permitted, Mr. Hansen was naturalized, and ever since then he has been a loyal citizen of the United States. Not the least of his services has been in conscientious attendance as a trial juror in both civil and criminal cases. A Progressive Republican, he is a strong advocate of temperance. He is also a steadfast patron of education, and for seven years he served on the School Board at Monmouth, in the Monroe School District, during which time, for a year, he acted as Clerk of the Board.

Mr. Hansen helped to build the Danish Lutheran Church in Selma. He helped to organize the first Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in Fresno County and also the first Danish Evangelical Lutheran Church in California—the Easton church near where Mr. and Mrs. Hansen made their first home. In the succeeding years, Mr. Hansen has helped to build eleven other churches of the same denomination, which is known as the United Danish Evangelical Lutheran Churches in California and includes some twelve congregations. Mrs. Hansen has been equally active in church work.

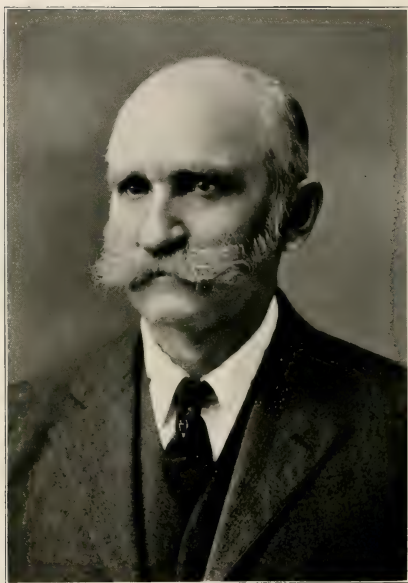
As might be expected of two such worthy citizens inspired both with religious and patriotic sentiments, Mr. and Mrs. Hansen heartily support the Red Cross movement.

ANTHONY P. CAZEMIRO.—Among the Californians by adoption who are contributing to the development of the Golden State, and who well deserve the prosperity that is theirs as a reward for years of hard labor and self-denial, is Anthony Cazemiro, who owns forty acres, six miles southeast of Riverdale. He bought this property in December, 1917, from William H. Whitlow.

He was born in the island of Pico, in the balmy Azores, on June 22, 1882, the son of Manuel P. Cazemiro, a plasterer by trade, who owned some dwelling houses on the Island. He had married in the Azores Catharine Neves, a native of Pico, and they had twelve children, nine of whom grew to maturity. Among these Anthony was the eleventh child, and he grew up on the island where he was born. He was educated in the public schools and worked for the most part on farms, and sometimes as a fishmonger, but by the time that he had reached his nineteenth year, he had begun to direct his thoughts toward the New World.

Four sisters and three brothers had already come to America, so young Cazemiro left his native shores and landed at Brooklyn on April 3, 1901. He came on to California and he arrived on April 17, at Goshen Junction, Tulare County. He went to work for his brother-in-law, Joe V. Garcia, as a milker, continuing with him for ten years and being paid from twenty-five to forty dollars a month.

In 1911 Mr. Cazemiro went to Hanford and bought a ranch of eighty acres, which he improved. At Hanford, on February 15, 1915, he married Miss Mary Madruga, the oldest daughter of Manuel V. and Mary (Neves)



Joseph Mouren

Madruga, natives, respectively, of the Island of Pico, in the Azores, and the State of Massachusetts. The mother was brought up in Boston and was educated in the grammar schools there; and she was married at Visalia.

Manuel Madruga, a real California pioneer, when only twenty years of age came directly from the island of Pico to what was then Tulare County, and herded sheep in what is now Kings County, and camped with his sheep in the middle of what is now the city of Hanford, and once when he and his wife started to come back to their place near that town, they were met by Vasques, the bandit, and his band, the day after the robbery at Kingston. During many years he worked up a band of 3,000 sheep that he owned with a partner, and in the dry year of 1894 they drove them up to the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and there the animals froze to death. This heavy loss of nearly all of the sheep, and the then prevailing low prices of wool and mutton, broke him up, and he had to begin all over again, working for others on their ranches. He is now well-to-do, and lives on a ranch of eighty acres three miles northeast of Hanford. He also owns an orchard of forty acres at Armona, and operates a large dairy ranch with 100 head of cattle three miles east of Hanford, having for a partner in the dairy enterprise his oldest son, Manuel Neves Madruga. One of his sons, John A., served his country at Camp Lewis until his discharge.

The second child in the family, and the oldest girl, Mrs. Cazemiro, was brought up on a Kings County ranch. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Cazemiro continued on his eighty-acre ranch near Hanford, and in June, 1917, sold it; and the following December, he bought his present place. In 1910, Mr. Cazemiro's parents joined them in Kings County; but they did not like it here, and they returned to the island of Pico, where they eventually died. Mr. and Mrs. Cazemiro are members of the Roman Catholic Church at Hanford. Mr. and Mrs. Cazemiro are the parents of two boys: Cyril Anthony, and Joseph.

JOSEPH MOUREN.—A resident of California since March, 1869, now the oldest settler of Huron, is Joseph Mouren, a native of France, having been born at St. Bonnet, near Gap, Hautes-Alpes, February 11, 1849. His father, Pierre Mouren, was a farmer and stockman in that country where he married Rose Julian, but both are now deceased.

Joseph was the youngest of their five children and is the only one now living. He received a good education in the schools of his native land. In March, 1869, he came to San Francisco and entered the employ of Eugene Havey, becoming a stock-buyer and traveling all over the state buying sheep for him. He was in Los Angeles in 1872, when it was but a small town, with a few adobe houses; that same year he was in Fresno when the railroad had just reached there and Fresno had only a few buildings. After traveling over the state he selected Huron as a desirable place for a location as it was the shipping point for a large territory. Mr. Mouren bought an hotel and livery stable and he and his wife have made a success of the business. He has also been engaged in sheep growing, as well as being engaged in the mercantile business. For over twenty years he engaged in sheep growing until 1918, when he sold his last band of sheep. Believing there is a great future for California lands he has added to his original holdings until he has about 4,000 acres of land in the Valley which he devotes to raising grain, cattle and horses. The soil in the valley is very rich and, when it is a seasonable year, he raises large quantities of grain. For this purpose he employs a Best seventy-five horse-power caterpillar, as well as a combined harvester.

In San Francisco, February 3, 1889, Mr. Mouren was united in marriage with Miss Angela Pelleisson, a native of St. Bonnet, Hautes-Alpes, France. She is the sixth oldest of eight children born to Jean and Madeline (Erro) Pelleisson, who were farmer folk. Mrs. Mouren received a thorough education in the public school in France. Becoming interested in the land of sunshine and flowers on the Pacific Coast, she decided to come hither, and on

May 6, 1888, arrived in Sacramento, and July 1 of the same year, in San Francisco where she met Joseph Mouren whom she later married. Of this union five children have grown up: Agnes, Mrs. King of Fresno; Edmond, is married to Mottie Dearis and is a viticulturist and machinist in Fresno. He served in the United States Naval Reserve Force in the late war; Angele, died when in his nineteenth year; Joseph, Jr., is assisting his father in his ranching enterprise and is married to Carrie Williams; and Marguerite, is the wife of Harold Pratt of Coalinga.

Mr. Mouren was one of the organizers of the Growers National Bank of Fresno, being a member of the first board of directors. Fraternally, he is a member of Franco-American Lodge No. 207, I. O. O. F.; also of Tribe No. 54, I. O. R. M., both in San Francisco. Mrs. Mouren is a woman of much business ability and has been an able assistant to her husband in making the success they have achieved. Mr. Mouren is a trustee of Huron school district, serving for fifteen years, he is now clerk of the board. In politics he is a Democrat in national affairs.

CONRAD NILMEIER.—A prosperous and successful rancher and raisin grower of Fresno County, Conrad Nilmeier has reached an assured position in life solely through his own efforts and industry and his business sagacity. He was born near Saratov, on the Volga River, in Russia, September 7, 1877, where his father, Philip Nilmeier, was a grain farmer and lived in that 300-year-old German Colony in Russia. Philip married Mary Folmer, also born in Russia, and they became the parents of twelve children, nine born in Russia and three in California, and four of them now living: Peter, a rancher near Locan, Fresno County; Conrad, of this sketch; Adam, proprietor of the Liberty Garage on G Street, Fresno; and Mary, wife of Joe Forhan, of Fresno.

When Conrad was a lad of nine years he came with his parents to California direct from Russia; seven Russian families, among them the Nilmeiers, landed at Fresno in 1887, and were the first Russian families to settle in Fresno County. The father worked as hod carrier for the old contractor, Joe Spinney, and carried a hod for the masons and also the plasterers in building the Hughes Hotel. He later engaged in the livery business in Fresno, and built up and became owner of the West Side Livery and Feed Stables, using fourteen lots and extensive barns and hitching sheds. Conrad had to work out, and started his business career as a delivery boy for the Fair crockery store, on Tulare Street, owned by Paul Borchardt; at sixteen he worked on the section for the Southern Pacific railway, continuing for two years. He attended a private night school in Fresno for six months while in his nineteenth year, and before that had only attended night schools; his education has largely been acquired through work, business and general reading.

When nineteen years old the young man began working in the livery stable for his father, and when twenty-four, after his marriage, he bought out the stock of horses and vehicles and rented the property, and ran the West Side Livery and Feed Stables for eight years; he began with twelve livery horses and quit in 1910 with sixty, while he fed and kept as many as 200 head of horses and was then running the largest livery and feed business in Fresno. While thus engaged, he looked forward to the time when he might own a ranch of his own, and in 1906 bought his present ranch; the following year he borrowed money on the property and improved it to vines and trees; comprising 160 acres, the property up to that time had been in grain field with the exception of sixty acres, which had been planted to Muscats (twenty acres), Thompson seedless, a like acreage, and the same to peaches. The balance Mr. Nilmeier has planted to raisin grapes and peaches, plums and apricots, and twelve and one-half acres to Malagas. He built a comfortable home, barns and other out-buildings necessary to the conduct of his ranch-



Mrs. E. Wilmer. E. Wilmer

ing operations, and has installed a pumping-plant with twenty-five horse-power engine and has laid 10,000 feet of cement pipe for irrigation purposes, making his ranch one of the most productive in the De Wolf district. In the summer of 1918 he sold eighty acres of the property to J. E. and A. M. Snook, retaining the half upon which his home and main improvements are located. Mr. Nilmeier perfected a process for bleaching and curing Thompson seedless grapes which converts them into the quality known as the White Valencias, and this process he has kept up for ten years, curing 900 tons in that period. He has been very successful in his operations and helped organize and is a stockholder in the California Raisin Association, also in the peach, apricot and prune associations.

The marriage of Mr. Nilmeier, on November 20, 1900, united him with Miss Emma Schwab; her death occurred in 1908, leaving seven children; Alexander, of Merced; Minnie; Ora; Alice; Gertrude; Benjamin; Rosa died at four months. The second marriage of Mr. Nilmeier united him with Miss Annie Schwab, a sister of his first wife, born in Fresno, the daughter of Vincent Joseph and Minnie (Ziebarth) Schwab, who were married in Nebraska and came to California in 1889; they are now living retired in Fresno. By the second union there are two children: Theodore E., and Herbert P. Mr. and Mrs. Nilmeier are members of the German Lutheran Church of Fresno, and helped in the erection of the fine church building on L and Ventura streets. They are patriotic and loyal citizens of the county and aided in all the drives during the late war, as well as in other civic duties, doing their share toward the upbuilding of the community.

EMMONS WILLIAM HOUGHTON.—A California pioneer whose pronounced success on the Pacific Coast is but the natural sequence to his successful operations for years as an expert potato grower in Aroostook County, Maine, is Emmons William Houghton, who was born at Anson, Maine, on May 9, 1862, the son of William and Dorcas L. (Cutts), Houghton who were also born in that state.

In 1904, Mr. Houghton came to Soquel, Santa Cruz County, where he engaged in the mercantile business. In 1907 he came to Fresno County, intending merely to "look around;" but as has been the case with so many thousands of others, he liked the appearance of everything so well that he sold his business at Soquel and bought forty-five acres in the Roosevelt district, ten miles northwest of Fresno. Here he engaged in dairying, for which he also planted alfalfa; and in the local dairy world he has been an aggressive and progressive competitor ever since. His ranch is under the Herndon Canal, which affords perfect irrigation, so that his alfalfa is full and rich, and his dairy products among the best anywhere marketed. He sunk a well fifty feet, which brings water to within twenty feet of the surface; and with a twenty-horse power engine, and an eight-inch pump, he has at his command a supply of from 1,600 to 2,000 gallons a minute.

At Soquel, Cal., Mr. Houghton was married to Mrs. Estella (Peck) Barber, a native of New York State, who came to California and to Santa Cruz when she was a child with her parents, and who came to have, by a former marriage, a son, L. N. Barber, a graduate of the department of law of the University of California and the well-known attorney at Fresno. By a former marriage, Mr. Houghton also has a son, Thomas, a farmer at Fort Fairfield, Maine.

Mr. Houghton is a member of the Odd Fellows, affiliated through the lodge at Soquel; and they are members of the Congregational Church. In national politics he is a Republican; and in local, non-partisan endeavor he has done his part for the betterment of the community by serving a term as school trustee of the Roosevelt district.

H. G. ROHR.—Few branches of the builder's trade have made more progress during the past quarter of a century than that of the sheet-metal worker, and this progress is evidenced in the well-appointed shop of H. G. Rohr, known as the Standard Sheet Metal Works, the leader in its line in Fresno, and located at 2524 Tulare Street. It has long been known for strictly first-class work, and as one of the few places having the capacity to meet the demands of any development in construction or architecture.

Born in Germany, a land of accomplishment in technical fields, and inheriting a natural bent for excellence in workmanship, Mr. Rohr first saw the light on March 1, 1867, and enjoyed the advantages of good elementary schools. When only sixteen, he came to America and early learned the trade of the sheet-metal worker in New York City, under conditions that put him in touch with, and made him master of the best American standards. He became a first-class journeyman, in demand by the best shops; and as a master mechanic came to the Coast just eighteen years ago.

Mr. Rohr established the Nevada Sheet Metal Works, at Reno, Nev., the first cornice manufacturing works in that state, building up the business to large proportions during a nine years' proprietorship. In 1917, Mr. Rohr came to Fresno, attracted by the building expansion, and having in mind the establishment of an ideal and thoroughly equipped shop, that he had planned in all its details. He soon advanced to the front rank among his competitors, and in June, 1917, he moved into his present place of business, and installed the most up-to-date machinery. From the start, his workmanship has given satisfaction, especially to those desirous of having only the best; and now he steadily employs several skilled workmen.

Mr. Rohr is known and esteemed not only as a business-man, but also as a citizen who patriotically supports his city, state and nation, and as a neighbor who never loses an opportunity to perform deeds of kindness.

C. B. JENSEN.—Perhaps there is no county in this State, or in any other State for that matter, that produces so much per acre, yields such a high average and in such superior quality, and no county that nets the investor such magnificent returns, as Fresno County, the strength of Central California, and the pride of the commonwealth.

The young man whose life-story we sketch is C. B. Jensen, and he is of the kind that make for success, and he is fast reaching that most coveted place. He owns and resides on a forty-acre ranch which he purchased in 1917; and whether it is worth while the reader may judge from what he has already gotten out of his investment. From fifteen acres he gathered thirty-two tons of raisins, and from the same amount of acreage he gathered twenty-nine tons of peaches. His profits netted him, for one season, the sum of \$7,800.

Previous to coming to this ranch, Mr. Jensen for four years clerked in the Union National Bank of Fresno; so that, while he was mastering the problems of finance and getting a correct idea of what ranchers were doing, he was in no condition physically to compete with men hardened to that kind of labor, and his entrance into the horticultural field is all the more interesting. But Mr. Jensen came of good stock—the kind that “does things.”

A native son, he was born in Fresno County in 1898. His father is Chris and his mother is Matilda Jensen of Selma. He was educated at Oleander, and graduated from the Washington Grammar School there. His parents, both natives of Denmark, migrated to this State and County, and are at present land-owners in and about Selma.

Five children were born to this couple, and three are now living. One of these is Martin Jensen, another is William, and a third is the subject of our sketch. Each one of these promising sons is engaged in agricultural pursuits, and each one is successful to a high degree.



Pedro Arriet

PEDRO ARRIET.—A splendid example of perseverance which resulted in ultimate success is illustrated in the life history of Pedro Arriet, a resident of Fresno County since May 4, 1886. He was born at Cilveti, Navarra, on the line of Spain and France, May 13, 1864. His father, Miguel Arriet, born in Basses-Pyrenees, France, was a carpenter and builder, as well as a general farmer. He came of an old French family; he married Francisca Lupereña, born in Navarra, Spain, who died in 1890, about forty-four years of age, while the father died at eighty-five years of age, in 1914.

Pedro is the second oldest of their family of eleven children, ten of whom are living. His educational advantages were limited for school was neglected in order that the children could help their parents on the farm. A desire to see the Pacific Coast—a country of which he had heard such glowing reports—led him to come to Fresno, Cal., where he arrived May 4, 1886. He obtained employment with Miguel Arburua, a sheep-man of Los Banos, remaining with him for two and a half years. At the end of this period, in partnership with his brother, Angel, he bought a flock of sheep and ranged them in Fresno County. Their headquarters was in the vicinity of Huron and Coalinga and they continued harmoniously in business together for ten years, meeting with success. In 1900 they dissolved partnership and divided the flock, each taking his share. Pedro continued sheep growing and in 1901 he located a homestead of 160 acres on Cantua, where he built a residence and improved the place, sinking a well and made needed improvements. He raises some grain, but makes a specialty of raising sheep, having a large flock of well-bred sheep and is meeting with success.

Mr. Arriet was married in Fresno, August 31, 1903, being united with Miss Agustina Yturri, who was born at Mesquiriz, Navarra, Spain, where she was reared and educated in the local schools. She came to Fresno December 15, 1902, and here met Mr. Arriet, their acquaintance resulting in their marriage the next year. They have one child living, a daughter Floren-cia, the pride of her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Arriet are both very kind-hearted and generous and vie with each other in dispensing true Californian hospitality and it is a delightful pleasure to be entertained under their hospitable roof. Having been fortunate in their stock-raising enterprise they do not hesitate lending a helping hand to others who have been less fortunate. A firm believer in protection for Americans, Mr. Arriet performs his civic duties as a Republican. Mr. Arriet is one of the original stockholders in the Growers' National Bank of Fresno.

CHARLES P. AVENELL.—Twelve miles south of Fresno on the Hanford branch of the Santa Fe system is the new and progressive raisin packing town of Monmouth, so named, by its founder and leading citizen, Charles P. Avenell, in honor of his native town, Monmouth, Ill. On his well-improved and productive farm of 320 acres known as the Willow Lake Ranch, enjoying all the comforts incident to a modern California country home Mr. and Mrs. Avenell, who was formerly Miss Bess Paul, and daughter, Alene, are living happily, among their friends and neighbors in what is rapidly becoming one of Fresno County's best raisin districts.

When Mr. Avenell first came to this place in 1903, there were only four persons who had vineyards or orchards. It was then mainly a cattle country, the water and grass being very good. The four who had ventured to plant vines and trees here before 1903 were: J. S. Paul; C. N. Rasmussen; F. L. Bennetts and C. T. Ward. The Santa Fe railway had been built through, but there was no station house and no switch, here, at that time. Monmouth now has a large brick raisin packing plant belonging to the California Associated Raisin Company at this point, and is now (October 1919) engaged in packing a \$2,000,000 crop of raisins, which in point of quality, particularly sweetness, are pronounced the best of any received at any of the receiving points of said company.

As a matter of historical interest it is well to review a few events in

the progress of this growing town: The circumstance which brought Mr. Avenell here in 1903, was primarily the drouth of that year.—As will appear further on in this review Mr. Avenell, had been an extensive cattle raiser, feeder and dealer back in Illinois.—His son, R. L. Avenell, who now resides at Monmouth, Cal., had come out from Illinois to semi-tropic, Kern County, Cal., earlier in the year 1903, with 221 head of high grade short-horn heifers. The pastures in Kern County gave out and our subject started out in quest of a place where water and feed could be obtained. On viewing the land comprising the present Willow Lake Ranch his experienced eye told him that this was the spot where he could keep his cattle alive, and finding the land for sale, he bought it and moved the cattle up immediately, in the fall of 1903.

He soon made the acquaintance of his neighbors and together they planned to have a switch built and a station established. Mr. Avenell bought an additional plot of fifty-five acres where the station now is located, in the fall of 1904. During the same year, 1904, he built the commodious bungalow living house and assisted by his son, planted the grove of eucalyptus trees, (now almost forest trees) and proceeded with one improvement after another, and with the help of neighbors succeeded in having the station established and the switch put in at Monmouth, in 1906. The first residence building was erected by Avenell in 1906, and Monmouth was laid out and platted by him in 1907. The store was built in 1908, and the United Presbyterian Church was built that year. Monmouth today has a store, containing the postoffice, a blacksmith-shop and garage, a resident doctor and a resident minister, and a large new packing house owned by the California Associated Raisin Company; an excellent grammar school with five teachers and 150 pupils; and a packing house for shipping green fruits. The last named institution was built as a cooperation packing house in 1912. In 1914 the California Associated Raisin Company rented it and began receiving raisins at this point. In 1916 the company built the first unit, a large two-story brick, of their packing-house and in 1919 added to it, more than doubling its capacity. Mr. Avenell has been a very active spirit in building up this new and promising town, and at seventy-five, is active as ever. Not only at Monmouth, but at Fowler as well, has Mr. Avenell's constructive ability been felt. He helped organize the First National Bank at Fowler and served on its directorate until the institution was sold in 1914. He gave largely of his means and time in building the United Presbyterian Church in Fowler, where he resided for several years, and continues to be greatly interested in all matters pertaining to the well-being of his community.

This recitation of Mr. Avenell's good work in Fresno County, Cal., does not give one-half of his history however. Through abilities inherited from a line of strong and virile ancestors, by sheer force of merit, he acquired a competency in his native county of Warren, Ill.

Mr. Avenell has twice been married. His present wife is a daughter of J. S. Paul, and is a lady of splendid attainments. Mr. Avenell's first wife was also a most excellent lady. She accompanied Mr. Avenell on two of the four trips he made to California while living in Illinois, saw the land constituting the Willow Lake Ranch, and helped plan their future home here. She was very anxious to move out to California. While Mr. Avenell was out here busily engaged in preparing for the new home a telegram came calling him back to Illinois. After a short but severe illness she died, in March, 1904. Mr. Avenell was preceded to California by his two sons, namely, J. F. Avenell who engaged in the orange industry at Naranjo, Tulare County in 1902, and who later became the first cashier of the First National Bank at Fowler; and his second son, R. L. Avenell.

Mr. Avenell is an honored survivor of our gallant band of Union defenders in the Civil War, and the organizer of several banks, but his main life-work and business, however, is and has been that of a farmer and stockman.

The soil and climate at Monmouth, Cal., is particularly favorable to the production of Thompson seedless and Muscat grapes as well as table grapes such as Malagas. Of the 320 acres comprising the Willow Lake Ranch 100 are now devoted to raisin and table grapes and peaches. But Mr. Avenell has not yet given up his interest in stock raising. He keeps 100 head of cattle on his ranch and now and then ships out a carload of live stock—to the San Francisco and Los Angeles markets.

Charles P. Avenell was born in Monmouth township, Warren County, Ill., February 8, 1845, a son of Thomas and Jane (Struthers) Avenell. Thomas Avenell was born in England, December 21, 1820, a son of Charles and Eliza Avenell, who, with their seven children came to Herkimer County, New York, whence in 1844 they removed to the vicinity of Mineral Point, Wis. Charles Avenell died in Iowa County, Wis., in 1877, aged ninety-two years, his wife dying at the same place in 1880. Thomas Avenell, the father of the subject of this sketch, began life as a poor boy. Came to Warren County, Ill., in 1841, where he bought eighty acres of improved land; this he sold in order to buy a larger farm of 160 acres in Monmouth township, in said county and farmed it successfully until his death, which occurred January, 1894, his wife, the mother of Charles P. Avenell, dying in 1884. She was born in Rockbridge County, Va., a daughter of William and Jane (Lindsay) Struthers, natives of Scotland, who settled in Virginia and later removed to Ohio where they both died. Mrs. Struthers' first husband was John Brown, who came with her to Warren County in 1836, and died there, in 1842, leaving two children, Rev. William Brown, formerly pastor, at Fowler, Cal., and Thomas Lindsay Brown, who was drowned in 1858. Thomas and Jane Avenell had children as follows: Charles P.; James S.; John B., who died in infancy and Elizabeth Jane, who married Conrad Albert. The father was married a second time to Jane Katharine Donahue who outlived him. Thomas Avenell became prominent as a farmer and stockman. He was an influential Republican and held several township offices.

Charles P. Avenell received a common school education and entered Monmouth College in 1862. In 1864 he enlisted in Company A, One Hundred Thirty-eight Regiment, Illinois Volunteer Infantry. His regiment was mustered into the United States service at Quincy, Ill., and served in the Army of the West, being stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kans., where Mr. Avenell did garrison duty, and helped guard prisoners until honorably discharged in October, 1864.

Returning to Monmouth township, Warren County, he began farming and became an extensive stock-raiser, stock-feeder and dealer. He became the owner of 1,820 acres of land there which he operated with success. In politics he has been a consistent Republican and in religion, an active and prominent member of the United Presbyterian Church. He was first married in his home township, June 6, 1866, to Miss Helen V. Law, who was born in Ohio, January 27, 1845, the daughter of James and Mary (Skinner) Law natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio respectively. Mr. Law was a prominent farmer and stockman. In 1855 he shipped the first carload of live-stock that ever left Monmouth by rail. Mr. Law died in 1884, while Mrs. Law died in December, 1899. Charles P. Avenell had four children by his first wife: Robert L.; Thomas William, who died in 1888, aged fifteen years; James Frank, and Helen J., who is the wife of H. P. Clark of Warren County, Ill. Charles P. Avenell was elected to the board of supervisors from his township and served for several terms. He was a member of the building committee, who had in charge the erection of the Warren County Court House. He has been active in Grand Army circles, especially as a member of the George Crook Post No. 81, G. A. R. at Kirkwood, Ill. In 1874 he helped organize the Second National Bank at Monmouth and served as a director from the time of its organization as long as he continued to reside in the state of Illinois.

ANTONE GEORGE SEQUEIRA.—A resident of Fresno County since 1874, Mr. Sequeira has taken part both in the development of its agricultural resources, and in the growth and advancement of the city of Fresno. He is one of the pioneer sheep men of this section and has achieved success in life through unremitting labor, and can truthfully be called a self-made man. Born in Pico, Azores Islands, January 5, 1856, Mr. Sequeira came, when but a mere lad, to make his fortune in the new world, arriving in Boston, Mass., May 10, 1872. He soon found work on a farm, ten miles south of Providence, R. I. On October 17, 1874, he left New York City on a steamer bound for California, coming via Panama, and arrived in San Francisco on December 22 of that same year. He then came directly to Borden, in Fresno County, and secured his first employment with J. R. Jones, the sheep and cattle man, on his ranch on the San Joaquin River, near Millerton. Later he was engaged in building the flume of the Madera Flume and Lumber Company, which ran to Madera. In 1880 he bought 1,370 ewes from the elder Blasingame, one of the pioneer sheep men of the state, and that same year Mr. Sequeira located west of Fresno and engaged in the sheep business in partnership with Mr. Vanderlip. He finally engaged in the business on his own account and had as many as 6,200 sheep at one time, and was very successful.

With confidence in the future prosperity of this section, Mr. Sequeira, from time to time, invested in real estate. In 1883 he bought six acres of land on A Street, west of Fresno, and planted it to alfalfa, vines and orchard, which land he still retains and rents out. In 1887 he bought three lots at E and Tuolumne Streets, and here he built his home at that time. In 1903 he bought 160 acres of land at Wildflower, improving it with alfalfa, and raising sheep, cattle and hogs, later selling this ranch. From 1893 to 1901, Mr. Sequeira was a member of the Fresno police force, and during this time he bought all but five lots of block 315, and also twenty-four lots in block 329; and he has sold all this property except eight lots.

Having seen his judgment as to the future in store for this region confirmed, Mr. Sequeira has continued his development work and in 1918 purchased a ranch of 160 acres located nine miles from Hanford, in Kings County; this property is now being developed. He has bought and sold Fresno real estate aside from his own holdings, and has aided materially in the growth and progress of the county, to which he came a poor boy with no other resources than the traits of character which make for success in any line. He has taken two trips back to his native country, one in 1890, and one in 1914, and now lives retired, looking after his various real estate holdings. Fraternally, he is a member of the I. D. E. S. and of the U. P. E. C. of Fresno. Mr. Sequeira has been twice married, his first union resulting in three children; Manuel G.; Josephine, wife of Robert G. Prather of Fresno; and Mercy, wife of Bert Stroud of Fresno. The second marriage united Mr. Sequeira with Rosie Martinez, also a native of the Azores Islands, and three children were born of this union: Anna, wife of J. J. Brum of Selma; Mamie, wife of S. J. Brum of Scandinavian Colony; and Eva, living at home, a pupil in the Fresno High School.

PETER G. GIANINNI.—A descendant of a California pioneer who came to America from his distant European home in the early days of California, Peter G. Gianinni is a young man standing on the threshold of a promising future. He was born in Madera, Cal., August 5, 1895, and despite the fact that he has seen but twenty-four summers, has had crowded into life's comparatively short journey experiences that are usually reserved for the mature years of the average man.

At two years of age he and his older sister, Laura (now Mrs. Bellochi, of Sausalito, Cal.), were made half orphans when death's portals closed on the earthly career of his mother, Angelina. His father, Jasper, who brought



A. G. Sequeira



Lucas Francke

five hundred dollars with him when he came to California, failed twice at farming, the first time in Madera County, and the second time at Reedley. His third and last attempt was a success, and in 1916 he again entered the matrimonial state, being united to Mrs. Aldina Rondi, widow of Renaldo Rondi, who died in 1915, leaving his widow with two children, Americo and Plino. Jasper Gianinni died November 8, 1917, aged fifty-one, his death occurring the year following his second marriage. He left a will in which he bequeathed the home ranch to his son Peter, and twenty thousand dollars to his daughter, Mrs. Bellochi, and her oldest son, his grandson, to receive ten thousand dollars when he attains his majority.

Peter Gianinni began to experience life's cares when compelled at the age of twelve to leave school and go to work because of his father's financial misfortunes. At fourteen he practically ran his father's ranch. At fifteen he was in charge of the ranch, and when seventeen had full control of his own and his father's business, keeping the men's time, writing out pay checks, and directing the work on the ranch. An able business man and a hard worker, he at times employs many men, and successfully runs his large, well-improved ranch which lies across the line from Fresno County, in the Kingsburg District, four one-half miles northeast of Kingsburg and six miles south of Parlier, 116 acres of the 120 comprised in the ranch lying in Tulare County and four acres in Fresno County. A fine bungalow was completed on the ranch in 1917, two months before his father's death. On the home place Mr. Gianinni has planted fifteen acres in beans, twenty acres in corn and potatoes, ten acres in grain, ten acres in prunes, ten acres to Thompson seedless grapevines, five acres to Malagas, thirty acres to muscats and twenty acres to peaches. In addition he rents fifty acres of grain land and twenty-six acres of corn land in Fresno County. The gross expense of running his ranch is \$7,000 and \$4,500 of this sum is expended for labor.

Mr. Gianinni is a member of the Catholic Church, and has demonstrated his patriotism to his country by liberally purchasing Liberty Bonds.

Mr. Gianinni was married, May 8, 1918, at San Luis Obispo, at the home of his bride's parents, to Miss Lena Biaggini, a daughter of Ercole and Josephine (Mozzini) Biaggini, of Cayucos, San Luis Obispo County, where he owns seven fine ranches. Mr. and Mrs. Gianinni have one child, a boy baby, LeRoy Jasper, born May 20, 1919.

LUCAS JUANCHE.—An energetic young man who has helped materially in building up the Tranquillity section is Lucas Juanche, who was born at Biscarett, Navarra, Spain, on May 12, 1882, the son of Christobal and Firmina (Echeveria) Juanche, who were farmer folk in Navarra and spent their entire lives there. Lucas was reared on the farm and received his education in the common schools of his native place. He had older brothers and a sister who had migrated to California and he became interested in the land of gold and sunshine and determined to come here. So when nineteen years of age he left his home and in June, 1901, he arrived in Los Angeles. He made his way to Ventura, where he found employment with Dixie Thompson and learned farming as it was done in California. After remaining steadily with Mr. Thompson for five years he left for Nevada, where in partnership with his brother Telesforo Juanche he followed sheep raising for three years. At the end of this time they sold out and he returned to California, locating in Fresno. Here he was employed until 1912, when he purchased his present place of eighty acres at Tranquillity and located there. He made the improvements, building a residence and other farm buildings. He broke the raw prairie, leveled and checked the land, and now has forty acres in alfalfa, the balance being devoted to raising grain. It is under the irrigation ditch; but being of a progressive nature, Mr. Juanche sunk a deep well for artesian water. It is a flowing well 877 feet deep, the finest water in the vicinity and is used by others for domestic purposes. He is also engaged in raising high-grade Duroc-Jersey hogs, of which he has some fine specimens as well as raising high-grade sheep.

The marriage of Lucas Juanche occurred in Los Angeles, where he was united with Miss Marie Muñoz, also born in Navarra, Spain; and to them have been born four children: Antonia, Joaquin, Frank and Dominica. Mr. Juanche has been rewarded for his efforts and close application to his work and now owns a productive farm, which yields him a comfortable competency. In their religious views, Mr. and Mrs. Juanche adhere to the Catholic faith.

JESSE AUGUSTUS BLASINGAME.—A capable and enterprising vineyardist and stock raiser, Jesse A. Blasingame, is industriously engaged in the prosecution of his chosen work. He was born on June 24, 1877, on the Dry Creek ranch, the home place of the Pioneer Blasingame family, of Fresno County, Cal. His education included attendance at the Alameda University Academy, from which institution he was graduated in 1895 and was supplemented by a course in the Fresno Business College. In 1897, J. A. Blasingame engaged in the stockraising business and the following year he returned to the home place, which consisted mainly of raw land, being used as a stock ranch and ranging at one time a thousand head of stock. After returning to the home ranch on Dry Creek, he improved forty acres and also in the Centerville district he improved 100 acres, where he set out a vineyard. When a man pursues a calling for which nature has specially fitted him, and in which work he finds great interest, success will crown his efforts, in nearly every instance. The efforts which J. A. Blasingame has so ably made in the development and improvement of the raw land in his section of the county, have met with deserved success, and at the present time he is the possessor of a well improved and thrifty vineyard of 160 acres of muscat grapes.

Jesse A. Blasingame was united in marriage with Mary Jane Sample, a native of Fresno County, and daughter of D. C. Sample. The parental home of the Blasingames has been blessed with one child, a son, Jesse Knox.

BEN HUNT.—A thoroughly enterprising American manufacturer of the type known as leaders of great industries, resident here since the middle eighties and honored by all who are familiar with his busy life and the scope of his activities, through which Fresno has profited so much as a growing manufacturing center, is Ben Hunt, who was born in Westfield, Ind., a suburb of Indianapolis, not far from the home of General Lew Wallace, the famous author of "Ben Hur," on May 29, 1852. His father was F. B. Hunt, a Quaker, who married Miss Elizabeth Moore, also of the Society of Friends, and for a while they resided near Indianapolis, then at Richmond, Ind., and later at Cincinnati. His father was an inventor who, having become very familiar with that line of work, was a clerk in the patent office until his death.

Ben Hunt, having been educated at the public and high schools in Richmond, learned the machinist's trade in Richmond, helping to manufacture steam engines, and in 1883 he came to Spokane and the next year to San Francisco, following his trade in each place. 1890 he came to Fresno, and ten years later he started his present business. This establishment, now known as the Valley Foundry & Machine Works, was incorporated in 1902, and Mr. Hunt has been president ever since. It is located at the corner of H and Mono Streets; and although the building first occupied on I Street had a floor space of only 25x50 feet, the plant is now housed in a building 100x115 feet in size—all the result of the proprietor's strict attention to business, and his expert workmanship, which has brought patrons from all over the San Joaquin Valley. With this investment of \$100,000, Mr. Hunt manufactures gas engines and a patented, centrifugal pump, while he does a contracting machine shop trade. Public-spirited and enterprising to a high degree, Mr. Hunt, as a self-made man supports every project that makes for the upbuilding of Fresno, while as a model employer of skilled labor, he enjoys the good will and loyalty of those in his employ.

At Richmond, Ind., Mr. Hunt married Miss Grace Parry, a native of that city and also a member of an old Quaker family, by whom he has had four



S. D. Hopper

children. Walter is foreman in the machine shop of the Valley Foundry; Robert is foreman of the foundry department; Grace has become Mrs. Maurice Calderwood, secretary of the foundry; while Edward V. Hunt is in Porto Rico with a sugar company.

Reflecting in many ways the Twentieth Century spirit of Fresno, Mr. Hunt is doubly interesting as having afforded, in his rapid evolution, an example of that marvelously swift development and growth peculiar to Fresno County, now one of the most progressive centers in the State. He is also interesting as an example of real value to American youth, alert to study and idolize the "man who does." Both the City and County of Fresno cannot have too many such men as Ben Hunt.

CAPTAIN SAMUEL D. HOPPER.—A well-preserved octogenarian and a veteran of the great Civil War, in which he distinguished himself for bravery and the faithful performance of duty, is Captain Samuel D. Hopper. He is now enjoying the pleasures of retired, quiet life at 442 Calaveras Avenue, Fresno. He was born at Somerton, Belmont County, Ohio, on December 4, 1838, and grew up in his native State. His father was William Hopper, of Belmont County, and his grandfather, Robert Hopper, a native of Ireland who settled in Ohio in very early days. William Hopper was a tanner who later became a farmer, and for seventeen years he served his township as Justice of the Peace. He was a strong Abolitionist and took a hand in running the "underground railroad;" while in religious faith he was a Universalist. He was married in Ohio to Miss Phoebe Lewis, who had been born in Pennsylvania of English ancestry, and by her he had eleven children, two of whom died in infancy. Five boys grew up, and each of them served in the Union Army; while all four of the girls who grew up were married in Ohio. The ninth child in the order of birth, Samuel D. Hopper is the only one of the family living in California.

The Hoppers made their living by very hard work, raising tobacco for the most part; and as there were only four months of district school in the winter, Samuel got about sixty or seventy days of schooling a year. But he applied himself so diligently to his school books that at the age of nineteen he obtained a certificate to teach.

He enlisted as a private in Company E of the Sixty-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry, October 17, 1861, at Camp Goddard, Zanesville, Ohio, and when the company was organized, he was appointed first or orderly sergeant; at the end of six months he received his commission as second lieutenant, and three months thereafter his commission as first lieutenant; while after the siege and battle of Fort Wagner, S. C., he was commissioned captain to fill a vacancy. As captain he served until the end of his enlistment. Part of his service as captain was in Virginia under Gen. Benj. F. Butler. Finally, on November 10, 1864, he was mustered out. At the battle of Fort Wagner, a bullet struck and wounded his left foot; and at the battle of Deep Run, Va., a bullet struck the scabbard of his saber, the impact of the bullet ruined his sword but did no harm otherwise. Then he came home to Malaga, Monroe County, Ohio, whither his father had removed during the war. Wishing to reenter the service after reaching home, he wrote to President Lincoln and also to Secretary Stanton, and they gave him a recruiting commission as major under full pay to raise a regiment of volunteers for Hancock's Veteran Corps; and he was thus engaged when the war closed.

In Belmont County, Ohio, in January, 1872, Mr. Hopper was married to Miss Rachel L. Foster, a native of Ohio, by whom he had five children: Leona M. is single and resides at Fresno, having formerly been a teacher; Bernal M. is a vineyardist and orchardist, resides at Fresno and owns 2,000 acres; Max D. is a vineyardist and orchardist, now living at Palo Alto, and has a ranch twelve miles east of Fresno; Shirley M., who became Mrs. Lawrence

Russell and is a widow, teaches in the San Francisco high school. Zulema E. Hopper is the fourth child, who after graduating from high school, married W. Morford. The first four of the children mentioned above graduated from Leland Stanford University. On the occasion of his second marriage, his first wife having died, Mr. Hopper took for his companion Mrs. Emma E. Neptune, a native of Ohio and a sister of the first Mrs. Hopper, and they have one son, Stanley R. Hopper, twelve years of age, living at home. A stepson, John R. Neptune, who was a soldier in the recent war, attends the University of Southern California, but makes his home with Mr. and Mrs. Hopper.

After the Civil War Mr. Hopper taught school in Monroe, Belmont and Noble counties, Ohio, and for a while kept a store at Malaga, Ohio. Then, selling out, he came West, stopped for six months at Hastings, Nebr., and went on to Eastern Oregon, where he taught school for twelve months and had a half interest in a band of cattle, later buying a half interest in a band of sheep. When he sold out, he moved back to Nebraska, bought out a store at Kearney, ran it eight months, sold out and came to California, and in October, 1880, came to Fresno County.

He took up a homestead three-quarters of a mile northwest of Del Rey, and taught the first school in the Prairie school district. He proved up on his homestead of 160 acres, and planted it to Muscat and Thompson grapes, and peaches and apricots. He planted the 160 acres, and in 1915 sold the northern half, still retaining the southern half. For ten years he never missed a day's work. His main work in Fresno County has been the improvement of his land, in which he is assisted by his sons, and in this hard work, he may truly claim to have borne the heat and burden of the day. He has taken an active part in scientific raisin growing and in horticulture generally. He has been interested in all the movements for securing better marketing conditions and prices. He was chosen president of the old cooperative packing house at Fowler, and served for one year about twenty-five years ago; this was before the advent of the present Raisin Growers Association, in which he is signed up and holds stock, and also before the Peach Growers Association, Inc.

Mr. Hopper is a member of Atlanta Post of the G. A. R. at Fresno, and in national politics is a Republican.

MARTIN METCOVICH.—One who has given his best years and energy towards building up Fresno County is Martin Metcovich, a native of Dalmatia, Austria, born in 1848, the son of Nicholas and Nellie Metcovich, the parents having been farmers by occupation and owners of a large farm at a seaport town on the Adriatic sea. They are now both deceased, leaving six children, three boys and three girls, all of whom are living.

Martin was reared on the home farm and from a lad made himself generally useful, learning farming as it is conducted in his native country. It was there he first learned the care of vineyards and the making of wine, a business he eventually took up in Fresno County. As was the custom with many of the lads on the Dalmatian coast, he went to sea, and for five years served before the mast on a large sailing vessel, and in that way made trips to New York and Philadelphia, and to Australia. When he left the sea he engaged in farming the home place and while thus engaged he married Lucy Vusich, the daughter of John and Lucy Vusich, members of old and prominent Dalmatian families. Three of her brothers had emigrated to California, and sent glowing reports back to Dalmatia, telling of the opportunities and wonderful resources in California. Mr. Metcovich became intensely interested and decided to seek his fortunes in the new country.

Leaving his wife in the old home, he arrived in California in 1885. He was first employed in Pasadena, then spent two years in the mines in Placer County, after which he made a trip back home to see his wife and father, remaining there eighteen months. When he again came to California, after two months spent in Placer County, he located in Fresno County, and here



Rachel L. Hopper,



Emma E. Hopper

began working as a viticulturist. When the Klondike boom burst forth, he made the trip via Skagway and over the pass, packing into Dawson City, and for a year worked in the mines.

After his experience in Alaska, Mr. Metcovich returned to Fresno, via Seattle. He again returned to his home in Dalmatia, remaining until 1901, when he came back to Fresno County. He then concluded to stay, and his wife and family joined him, arriving in 1903. He purchased the present place of forty acres on North Avenue, about nine miles east of Fresno. It was raw land and he set to work improving it, levelled the land and set out the whole acreage to wine grapes, with the exception of a small grove of figs and a border of figs around the ranch and shading the avenue. He has installed two pumping plants and irrigates the entire acreage, thus producing large crops. As soon as his vines were bearing sufficiently he built a winery and engaged in the manufacture of wine until two years ago, since which time he is using his grapes for raisins.

Three children have been born to this worthy couple: Nicholas, and John, who are ranching on Belmont Avenue; while Nellie, the youngest, is an able assistant to her parents in household and business affairs.

MADS PETER MADSEN.—The superior advantages offered to agriculturists, by the United States of America, have attracted from all parts of the world those who have become our substantial and prosperous ranchers. Many of them arrived in this country handicapped by the lack of money, but eventually, through thrifty habits and untiring efforts, they have surmounted all obstacles and have not only gained a comfortable living, but they have in due time saved sufficient money to purchase land. Among the successful vineyardists of today, one who came with a wife and three children, without money, and is now the owner of an improved raisin ranch of forty acres, is M. P. Madsen, of Parlier.

M. P. Madsen was born on July 31, 1867, at Fredericia, Denmark, son of Jorgen and Maria Matsen, who were also natives of Denmark, where they both passed away, being the parents of four children: Maren; Marie; Mads Peter; and Jorgen. The subject of this review, M. P. Madsen, attended school in his native land from the age of six to fourteen, but owing to the financial condition of his father he was obliged to work out on farms from the time he was nine years of age, and thereby not only aided in the support of the family but gained valuable knowledge in farming. As is customary in Denmark, he was in the army at various times; in 1887 he served seven months; his last two years, ending in 1891, were in the Danish infantry.

Mr. Madsen had a brother-in-law living in Selma, Cal., Lars Larsen, who is now deceased, who sent him a ticket for himself and family, covering their transportation from Copenhagen to Fresno, Cal. On April 10, 1894, the family sailed from Copenhagen in a Danish steamer and after eighteen days landed in New York City; they arrived in Fresno, Cal., May 4, 1894.

After reaching Selma, he secured work by the day, for which he was paid ninety cents and boarded himself. After three or four years of laboring for others he rented a place for several years and engaged in the raisin business. The year 1908 is a memorable one in his career for it records the purchase of his present ranch of forty acres which is devoted to vines, fourteen of which are planted to Thompson seedless grapes, now two years old; eighteen acres are in muscat and six are planted to malaga grapes, the balance of the land is devoted to yards, buildings and the ditch.

On January 12, 1889, M. P. Madsen was united in marriage with Carrie Larsen, a native of Denmark, and this happy union has been blessed with seven children: Carl, a rancher in the Kutner Colony, where he was employed by the raisin growers association to farm some of their land, but now in the city of Fresno; Mary, the wife of George Richards, manager of the Associated Packing House at Del Rey; George, who married Marie Nielsen, is

employed on a raisin ranch near Del Rey; Carlie, who was born in this country, is now the wife of Charles Johnson, a rancher near Hanford, and foreman for the American Vineyards Company, and she is the mother of one child; Peter, who returned home June 1, 1919, after serving in the United States Army in France; Christine, the wife of Benjamin Johnson, resides on his father's ranch near Parlier; and Alma, attending school in the district.

Mr. Madsen is a member of the Danish Lutheran Church, attending the church on the Reedley road, three miles west of Parlier. He is a Democrat, and a loyal citizen of the United States. He is a very intelligent and industrious vineyardist; the success he has attained in ranching, without the aid of money at the start, is an inspiring example for other young men.

JES ANDERSEN.—One of the most successful and progressive ranchers and pioneer residents of Fresno County, in the vicinity of Parlier, is Jes Andersen, an enterprising horticulturist and viticulturist, a native of Denmark, where he was born on September 4, 1858, near Ribe, in Jutland. His parents, Hans and Maria Andersen, were blessed with five children, Jes, the subject of this review, being the oldest and the only one living.

In 1890, Jes Andersen immigrated to America and the same year arrived in Fresno County, Cal., where during the first summer he worked at his trade, that of a carpenter. The following year, 1891, he purchased his present place of twenty acres, which at that time was a field of wheat stubble, but he soon began to improve the place by planting vines and fruit trees, ten acres being devoted to muscat vines, four acres to peaches, one to apricots, two to seedless grapes, the balance being used for buildings, yards, and for growing alfalfa. Having learned the trade of a carpenter and builder, in Denmark, he supplemented his income, while his crops were coming into bearing, with building houses and barns for other ranchers, as well as building the necessary buildings for his own ranch. By hard work, intelligent management, and the practice of those thrifty habits so characteristic of his fellow countrymen, Jes Andersen met with a good degree of success in his undertakings. In 1902, he purchased from an heir of the Ross ranch twenty acres of land situated one mile east of his first place. This he also improved with vines and fruit trees, planting nine acres to muscat vines, three acres to seedless grapes, two acres to peaches, three to apricots. Mr. Andersen is a man of affairs in his community and has always given his support to every progressive movement for the uplift of the community.

In 1899, Jes Andersen took a trip to his native land and while there he was united in marriage with Miss Anna Paulsen, and returned with his bride to his Fresno County ranch, in 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Andersen have been blessed with six children; Marie, Pauline, Selma, Dagmar, Hans, and Paul. Mr. Andersen is a leader among the Danes of Fresno County, and is a very prominent member of the Danish Lutheran Church, of which he is a trustee; also an ex-president of the Danish Brotherhood, an auxiliary organization having a hall two and one-half miles west of Parlier, used as a social center.

Mr. Andersen has shown his interest in educational matters by serving for six years as a school trustee for Ross School District. Not only in horticulture and viticulture has Mr. Andersen made a success, but his ability as a financier has been recognized by the assistance he rendered in the organization of the First National Bank of Parlier, of which he is a stockholder; he is also a member and stockholder in the California Raisin Growers; California Prune and Apricot Association, and the California Peach Growers; and is a stockholder in the Peach and Raisin Growers' Association.

Hans Andersen, the father of Jes, immigrated from Denmark in 1900, and joined his son in Fresno County, making his home with his sons. The father passed away in 1917, at the home of his son Jes, having attained the advanced age of ninety-one years.

ARTHUR C. GEORGESSEN.—One of the rising young men in the raisin industry in Fresno County, Arthur C. Georgesen, as manager of the Madison Vineyard, is demonstrating his ability in no uncertain manner. Born in Waushara County, Wis., May 31, 1888, he is a son of L. M. and Hannah (Rasmussen) Georgesen, the tenth in order of birth in a family of fourteen children. He is the only member of the family in California, having come to seek new opportunities in the Golden State in 1910. Since his arrival in Fresno County, that same year, Mr. Georgesen has applied himself to the raisin industry, and his thorough knowledge of every phase of the business has been of inestimable value to him in his present position.

The Madison Vineyard consists of 520 acres, all under cultivation, and yielding good returns to the owners under Mr. Georgesen's capable management. During the busy season, he has a host of men under his supervision, and other times about twenty are employed. The average yield is one one-half tons per acre. From sixty acres of table grapes, he gathered 14,000 crates, a very good showing for both the vineyard and its manager. In April, 1919, the Madison Vineyard was purchased by W. W. Parlier, Fred Nelson and associates, the name being changed to Sun Maid Ranch, and Mr. Georgesen was retained as manager.

The marriage of Mr. Georgesen united him with Miss May Deman, the daughter of Mrs. Amanda Deman, and one child has been born to Mr. and Mrs. Georgesen, a daughter, Dorothy. Mr. Georgesen is thoroughly in line with the spirit of progress which permeates Fresno County, and can be counted on in all movements for advancing the County's best interests. Fraternally he is a member of the Knights of Pythias in Fresno.

KARL WINTER.—The ancestry of Mr. Winter traces back for generations to the time when his forefathers applied to the Russian government for a permit to establish a colony of German immigrants in the valley of the Volga, for the purpose of escaping from Prussian militarism. When this permit was granted, these brave men and women left their homeland, to build up a home where they could be free to pursue their own course in life; they cultivated the soil in that great fertile valley, and kept up the religious fires kindled by Martin Luther during the Reformation. But they were and are essentially Russians, notwithstanding their language and religious inclinations, and they have developed the great agricultural resources in that region of Russia. Coming from such stock, Mr. Winter's attitude toward militarism is the same as that which characterized his forbears, so that in the strife for world domination his loyalty to this country has never been questioned.

Mr. Winter was born October 24, 1873, a son of Daniel and Mary (Schaeffer) Winter, who lived about sixty miles from Saratov, in Russia. Mr. Winter grew up on his father's farm and attended the home schools. He became a reader of the newspapers of his country, and engaged in correspondence with friends on this side the Atlantic, so that he became filled with the ambition to be a citizen of the great United States, with California as the objective point. He was married at the age of twenty-one to Miss Mary Schmidt, a native of the same colony, and it is to her Mr. Winter gives the credit for much of the success that has come to them. It is certain that she has been a wonderful helper and inspiration to her husband, and together they have wrought much good in the community in which they live. In the struggles incident to establishing themselves in their new home, they have never lost sight of the higher things of life, and they are both active members of the Salem Congregational Church. They both worked and contributed to the erection of the beautiful \$8,000 church on McCall Avenue, which was built in 1917. It is said to be the finest and largest edifice of any country congregation of that denomination in America. Mr. Winter is one of the board of trustees of the church, and is regarded by all who know

him as a man of the highest honor and probity. Theirs is a happy, though not elaborate home, and is graced by four children: Kristina, now the wife of H. H. Kramer; Daniel, Annie and Leo. Mr. Winter's mother died in Russia, in 1918, aged seventy-one; the father died in his native land at the age of seventy-six. There is a brother, August, near Fresno, while there are two brothers and one sister in Russia.

In 1900, Mr. Winter came to Fresno County, and immediately began working for ranchers. Industry and frugality were his greatest possessions, as they are still, and they have contributed to his success as a man for he is highly regarded as one of sturdy Christian character. His first purchase was only twenty acres, and this he improved, planted and sold to good advantage; his next holding was a piece of forty acres, which he likewise improved and sold. He is now the owner of sixty acres on North Avenue, about ten miles from Fresno and four miles from both Sanger and Del Rey. This he is planting to vines, trees and alfalfa. He also owns forty acres of unimproved land on Jensen Avenue and a ninety-acre tract near Chico, Butte County.

ANGEL ARRIET.—An old time stockman of the West Side, now engaged in dairying and viticulture on California Avenue where he is meeting with deserved success, is Angel Arriet who was born at Célvite, Navarra, Spain, September 3, 1863. He is the son of Miguel and Francesca (Luperena) Arriet, natives of France and Spain, respectively, the father having been a farmer and carpenter. Both passed their entire lives there, the mother dying in 1890, aged about forty-four, and the father in 1914, at the age of eighty-five years.

Angel was the eldest of their eleven children, and was reared on the home farm until he came to California in 1884 and entered the employ of Miguel Arburua, a sheep grower of Los Banos to care for his flocks on the West Side. In 1888 Angel entered into partnership with his brother Pedro, and they purchased a flock of sheep and continued together, meeting with good success until about 1900, when they divided their flocks, each taking one-half and dissolved partnership. Wishing to engage in ranching Mr. Arriet sold his sheep in 1905 and purchased his present place on California Avenue, five miles west of Fresno where he has been engaged in dairying ever since. He now owns sixty acres, twenty of which are in Thompson seedless raisin grapes and forty in alfalfa. He is a careful and thorough farmer, keeping his ranch in the best of order.

Mr. Arriet was married in Fresno, September 28, 1905, being united with Miss Dominica Camino, who was born at Whart Cize, St. Jean Pied de Port, Basses Pyrenees, France, a daughter of Jean and Mary (Inchausti) Camino, who were farmer folks in the Pyrenees region. Mrs. Arriet received a good education in her native France, and came to Fresno in 1904. Of this union there are four children: Josephine, Michael, Bernard, and John. Mr. and Mrs. Arriet are loyal to their adopted flag and particularly do they appreciate the splendid opportunities California has afforded them. Believing in co-operation, Mr. Arriet is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, as well as the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association and is also a stockholder in the Danish Creamery.

HENRY BERGTHOLD.—An enterprising, successful and highly esteemed rancher, living on his attractive place near Reedley, Fresno County, is Henry Bergthold, who is an up-to-date, scientific viticulturist and horticulturist. His ranch of twenty acres is devoted to prunes, sultana and raisin grapes, and on an average yields two one-half tons of grapes to the acre.

Henry Bergthold is a native of Minnesota, where he was born on October 1, 1883, near St. James, Watonwan County, the son of Jacob and Barbara (Linscheid) Bergthold, who were both natives of Australia, having settled in Minnesota in 1883. Their family consisted of nine children,



Engel Christ



Dominica Christ

five of whom are living: Edmund; Gustave; Rudolph; Henry; and Alfred, all being residents of Fresno County. For a number of years Jacob Bergthold followed agricultural pursuits in Minnesota and in 1904 the family migrated to California, locating at Reedley. During 1914 both Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Bergthold passed away.

Henry Bergthold received his education in the public schools and followed farming until coming to California. He has been a resident of Fresno County since 1904, and has farmed nearly all the time since, having lived on his present ranch since 1913, where he built himself a beautiful home in 1914. While he is especially fitted for conducting a ranch, yet he can adapt himself to other employment and conditions, as his services have been in demand in various stores, and, when help was needed, at the post-office. Henry Bergthold formerly owned the property now owned by Mr. Muller,

On May 8, 1909, Henry Bergthold was united in marriage with Miss Marie Muller, a daughter of Gottlob and Louise Muller. Of this happy union there were born four children: Arthur; Louis; Reuben, and Ruth. Mrs. Bergthold is a native of Germany, where she was born, May 19, 1887. Her parents came to the United States in 1895 and located in Kansas, where they remained until 1908, when they migrated still farther west, settling in California. Her father died at Reedley in 1917; her mother still resides there. Mr. Bergthold belongs to both the Raisin and Peach Growers associations. He is a member of the First Mennonite Church of Reedley.

ANDREW MORTENSEN.—In its inexhaustible natural resources, and topographically and geographically considered, the United States may well be called the greatest country on the globe. But in these lies only a part of her greatness. It is when she is considered from a sociological standpoint, that we see what has taken place in the Western World, a miracle acknowledged by even the older nations—the commingling of many nationalities, the blending of their diverse customs and habits—all this has produced here, and for the first time, the newest and best type of society.

Andrew Mortensen is a striking illustration of one of the elements in this fusion, for the making of the ideal American. He was born in Denmark, January 29, 1874, and is the son of Niels and Caroline Mortensen, a worthy pair also of that worthy country. Three children, all living, make up the family, which immigrated to this country in 1884, and located in Minnesota. For fourteen years they remained in that prosperous northern State, by their toil and frugality, as well as their highly-intelligent way of doing things, and their exemplary living, both contributing to and sharing the wealth of the country, and then they moved south to Texas. In 1906, however, having learned of the still greater advantages in California, and especially in the central part of the State, they came to Fresno County, and here, welcomed, esteemed and honored, they are still living. The three children are: Christine, who is Mrs. Christensen; Myrtle, now Mrs. Wintermute, and Andrew, the subject of our sketch. Andrew Mortensen was united in marriage to Miss Clara Reves, whose parents were both born in Denmark. This happy union was blessed by the birth of seven children, namely: Edmund, Freddie, Ella, Roy, Henry, Verna, and Agnes.

Three years after coming to California, Mr. Mortensen purchased his ranch of thirty-five acres lying about three-fourths mile southeast of Reedley, and since then he has so greatly improved and beautified it, that he has brought it to a high degree of order and service, and greatly enhanced its value. Six tons of raisins have been obtained from four acres of soil, and he has been quite as fortunate with other products in proportion. The production well shows what a man of superior intelligence and untiring industry can do with Fresno County land.

Mr. Mortensen and family are social favorites in their community. They attend the Danish Lutheran Church, and are loyal Americans, true to the land of their adoption.

D. J. KLEINSASSER.—A recent addition to the real estate, loan and insurance business circles of Reedley, is the firm of Kleinsasser & Besoyan, which was established in 1917. D. J. Kleinsasser, the senior member of the firm, a native of South Dakota, is the subject of this review. He was born on November 1, 1889, and was reared in South Dakota where he received his education in the public schools. Mr. Kleinsasser has confined his attentions to agricultural pursuits up to the time of his present business undertaking.

D. J. Kleinsasser is the son of Rev. J. Z. Kleinsasser of the Mennonite Church, whose first wife was Miss Anna Hofer. His second wife was Miss Lena Fost. Both were natives of Russia. By his two marriages Rev. Kleinsasser became the father of seventeen children, thirteen of whom are living: Andrew A., who resides in South Dakota; John J., who was in the United States Army, and honorably discharged in June, 1919; Z. J.; Jacob J.; Joseph J.; D. J.; Paul J.; Mary J.; Rachel; Lydia; Anna; Kate; and Mike. Rev. J. Z. Kleinsasser moved to California in 1910 and eventually settled in Tulare County, where he purchased 800 acres of land devoted to vines and alfalfa and which he has since sold. When the Kleinsasser family arrived in California, in 1910, they possessed \$80,000 in cash. In December, 1918, he bought eighty acres in cling peaches south of Reedley, where the family now reside.

On July 29, 1910, a great cloud of sorrow overcast the sunny home of the Rev. J. Z. Kleinsasser, which was caused by the death of Mrs. Kleinsasser and her daughter Annie, in an automobile accident at Reedley. D. J. Kleinsasser was also in the accident, but escaped with a severe scalp wound, which left a scar that will remain during his lifetime.

On April 11, 1912, D. J. Kleinsasser was united in marriage with Miss Agnes G. Eidsen. In September, 1918, Mr. Kleinsasser took up ship-building at Mare Island, doing his bit for the government, serving four months. Kleinsasser & Besoyan are enjoying a growing business and friends predict for the new firm a bright and prosperous future.

S. GEORGE.—The growing of raisins has made Fresno County famous and afforded opportunities for success to very many, but there seems to be an affinity between this business and the foreigner, for they are few who do not make a success at it. Prominent among the successful ones is S. George, who owns four good raisin ranches near Fresno and resides in Fresno with his family, at 327 F Street, in a bungalow that he built twenty-six years ago. One ranch of forty acres lies six miles west of Fresno on Whites Bridge road, another forty lies eight miles east of Fresno on California Avenue, another of twenty-nine acres is near Malaga, and a fourth of thirty-seven and a half acres is in the Lone Star district.

Mr. George was born near Harpoot, Turkey, at a little town called Arapper, in 1864. His father was George Geehanshian, a tailor at Arzroom, Turkey. He died in Fresno about twenty-five years ago at the age of eighty-five years. The mother was Annie Fereshedian, and is now living with a son, Chet George, at 462 I Street, Fresno. She is now ninety-five years old. They had four sons and three daughters. The sons all came to Fresno and two died here. Two of the sisters also live in Fresno, but one lives in Turkey.

Mr. George had but little schooling. He learned the tailor's trade with his father in Turkey. He made up his mind to get away to a land of freedom, where he would have the opportunity of earning money to bring his relatives to this country, to save them from the ravages of the Turk. He left home for the land of opportunity in 1886, sailing from Smyrna via Liverpool to New York, reaching that city in December of that year. He went to Philadelphia and worked at his trade for Wanamaker & Brown for two years, then in 1888, he came to Fresno. Here he engaged in the tailoring

business, and helped to establish the firm of George Bros., Clothiers and Merchant Tailors, Fresno, then on J Street, now on Mariposa Street. He sold out his interest in this business about twenty years ago, and has since devoted his energies to the raisin industry. He assisted in getting all of his family to America.

Mr. George was married in Fresno in 1897, to Miss Aznive Paul, a native of Arzroom, who died April 1, 1910. There were born to this union six children: Henry, who assists his father in the operation of the ranches; Rose; Violet; Lily; John, and Marguerite. He was married a second time on September 24, 1911, to Miss Christina Manoogian, and they have one child, Lawrence.

Mr. George is a progressive man and with his family enjoys the esteem and confidence of the community. He is a Republican in politics, and is an enthusiastic supporter of the government in all its aims.

EDWARD L. BALLARD, D. C.—A practicing Chiropractor as well as a practical rancher, who is successfully conducting this rather unusual combination of pursuits, is Dr. Edward L. Ballard, who resides about six miles northeast of Sanger. He is a native of the Blue Grass State having been born in Uniontown, Union County, Ky., on Independence Day, 1884, a son of Joseph F. and Lucinda (Morgan) Ballard. Mrs. Ballard was a cousin of Gen. John Morgan, the noted officer of the Confederate Army, during the Civil War.

In 1890, Joseph F. Ballard, with his wife and family, migrated to California and in 1895 settled in Fresno County where he followed agricultural pursuits, owning thirty acres of land east of Sanger. He was a very popular and highly respected man in his community and in 1910 he passed away. His widow now resides with her son, Dr. Edward L. Ballard. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph F. Ballard were the parents of: Berton; Lewis; Edward L.; Anna; William; and Ruth.

Edward L. Ballard was reared in Fresno County and attended the public schools of Sanger and Fairview districts. Becoming interested in Chiropractic, he entered the Pacific Chiropractic College, Portland, Ore., where he was graduated in 1915; he then continued his studies in the Los Angeles College of Chiropractic, in which institution he also taught seven months, graduating therefrom, in 1916, with the degree of D. C. Since then he has practiced his profession in Fresno County.

Mr. Ballard owns and operates a fertile ranch of twenty acres which he devotes to the raising of alfalfa, vineyard and orchard. He is a worthy and enterprising young man whose friends predict a useful and successful career. He is an active member of the Christian Church in Sanger, and is held in high esteem in his community.

JOHN A. SCHMIDT.—A loyal American citizen of foreign parentage, whose life illustrates the splendid opportunities offered by the United States of America to rising youth, is John A. Schmidt, who has been a resident of Fresno County since 1907, and who lives two miles north of Reedley. He is a native of Kansas, where he was born on October 4, 1877. He attended the grammar schools of his native State and graduated from the high school. Later, too, he spent a couple of years at college, and then for a while he taught school.

His parents were Andrew and Anna Schmidt, native Germans who were born on Russian territory, and who immigrated to the United States in 1873. They pushed West to Kansas, and in that inviting commonwealth they made their home and lived the lives of farmer folk. They were hard-working, thrifty people, and successfully reared a family of thirteen children. Seven of these are still living, and one, John A., the subject of our story, is a resident of the Pacific Slope.

John A. Schmidt owns a fine ranch of forty acres, which he devotes to grapes, apricots and alfalfa. He farms scientifically, availing himself of every improvement in method or apparatus; he takes pride in maintaining a model place, and the high quality of his products speaks for him. Mr. Schmidt is by nature public-spirited, and for years he has taken a deep interest in civic affairs in Fresno County. His fellow citizens have honored him with the office of deputy assessor of the Alta district, which he has held, to everybody's satisfaction, for six years. He has served as clerk of the school board in the Fink district since 1915, for which he is peculiarly fitted by his experience as a teacher.

In 1903, Mr. Schmidt was married to Miss Anna, the daughter of Peter Funk; and by his estimable wife he has had twelve children. The living are: Arthur L., Ernest A., Samuel H., Ruby E., Alice E., Grace P., Harold W., Stella R., John W., and Waldo W. Mrs. Schmidt, who also once lived in Kansas, attends with her husband the Mennonite Church. Both have many friends and well-wishers, who value their kind-heartedness and neighborly disposition.

MIGUEL VILLANUEVA.—Among the men who have made a success of sheep and wool-growing in Fresno County, mention should be made of Miguel Villanueva, who was born in Aincioa, Navarra, Spain, July 4, 1872, the youngest of a family of four children born to Francisco and Fillippa (Galduros) Villanueva, who were well-to-do farmers and stock raisers in Navarra, where they spent their last days. Miguel, the only one of the family to come to America, was educated in the public schools. Reared on the farm, he remained at home until twenty, when, having become interested in California, he determined to come here to try the opportunities offered here. Leaving home in December, 1892, he arrived in Bakersfield, Cal., in January, 1893, and immediately obtained employment with Miguel Urrutia, a sheepman, with whom he continued to work for six years. During this time he learned the ins and outs of sheep-growing in California. As early as 1894 he had ranged sheep around Coalinga and on the Cantua in Fresno County. Quitting the employ of Mr. Urrutia to engage in business for himself, Mr. Villanueva with a partner, Jose Larrea, purchased a flock of sheep. Before the end of the year he bought his partner out and continued business alone until 1907. He then took in as a partner Mr. Florencio Serrano, and they have continued together ever since. They own 160 acres on the Cantua where they have been raising grain. In 1911 they bought sixty-two acres in Tranquillity which they have improved for alfalfa and where Mr. Villanueva makes his home. Mr. Serrano having charge of the Cantua ranch. Both places are well improved with good buildings. Their herd has become large and is now run in two flocks. They also own a residence at 761 S Street, Fresno.

In Fresno occurred the marriage of Mr. Villanueva and Miss Manuela Yturri, who is also a native of Mesqueriz, Navarra; and to them have been born nine children: Mariano, Jose, Gracian, Marie, Justo, Braulia, Firmin, Matias and Ermine Jilda.

Mr. Villanueva is one of the original stockholders of the Growers National Bank of Fresno.

AUGUST TORESON.—Sweden has contributed largely of her sturdy sons to the permanent settlement of California, and from among the many worthy Swedish residents of the Golden State, particular mention is made of August Torsen, the successful horticulturist and viticulturist who owns a beautiful ranch home three one-half miles southwest of Reedley.

August Torsen was born in Sweden, in 1866, and received his education in his native country. In 1890 he emigrated to the United States, and having heard of the many and varied opportunities offered to homeseekers, and of its glorious climate, he decided to follow the example of so many of his own countrymen and cast in his lot with the citizens of the Golden State.



Miguel Villanueva

After his arrival in California, August Toreson began at the lowest rung of the ladder of success, and by dint of hard labor, industrious and frugal habits he had saved enough money by 1901 to purchase his present ranch of twenty-seven acres. At the time of purchase only a part of the land was cultivated but he soon began to improve the place and has brought it up to a high state of productiveness, besides which he has built a beautiful house which is equipped with modern improvements. The product of his ranch consists of peaches and grapes of a very fine quality.

The year 1901 was a very propitious one for August Toreson, for it not only marks the beginning of a life of independence in business affairs, by the purchase of his ranch, but it also records his marriage to the woman of his choice, Mrs. Amanda C. Anderson. By a former marriage she was the mother of three children: Walter, who served in the United States Army, in France; Redena; and Ruth. The marriage of August Toreson with Mrs. Amanda C. Anderson was blessed with five children: Elmer R.; Elvira Myrtle; Mabel A.; Helen M.; and Robert L. On February 27, 1916, Mr. Toreson was bereft of his loving wife and companion, and the children of a mother's tender care and devotion.

Mr. Toreson is highly esteemed in his community and is regarded as an enterprising and successful rancher. He belongs to the Apricot and Prune, Raisin and Peach Growers associations.

HANS AUTSEN.—One of the prosperous young ranchers of the section near Reedley, and one for whom his friends predict greater successes in the future, is Hans Autsen, a native son of California, born in Monterey County, on May 23, 1887. His parents are Chris and Mary Autsen, both natives of Denmark. Chris Autsen was born in 1846 and emigrated to this country in 1882. The thrifty and frugal characteristics of the Danes usually bring them success in whatever place they choose to locate. Chris Autsen became an extensive farmer and stockman and was well known as an expert judge in buying and selling stock. Mr. and Mrs. Chris Autsen were the parents of three children; the subject of this sketch, Hans, was the oldest.

Hans Autsen was engaged with his father in the stock business and also in farming, and his excellent management and good judgment were a great aid to the success of the enterprise. For the past five years he has been engaged in the fruit industry and is now operating 120 acres devoted to raisins, peaches, beans and grain. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

In 1913, Hans Autsen was united in marriage with Miss Ella Johnson, born in San Francisco, in 1888, a daughter of M. and Catherine Johnson. Her parents have lived in Fresno County for over thirty-five years and are well known in business and social circles.

JOHN WALLERS.—An enterprising, broad-minded and progressive citizen, who has long been a resident of Fresno County, and active in developing its natural resources, and an upbuilder of the district in which he has enjoyed his prosperity, is John Wallers, who was born in the Rhine province, Germany, on February 25, 1867, the son of Mathias and Elizabeth Wallers, worthy farmers of that place. Six of their children grew up, and among them John was the second youngest. He was reared on a farm and attended the public schools, and spent his youth at home.

To escape military service when he was twenty-one, he came to the United States in March, 1888, and soon traveled to the middle west and the northwest. As early as 1890 he made his way to Tacoma, and a year later came south and located in Fresno County, seeking a warmer climate. He began to work in the vineyards and orchards, and little by little familiarized himself with Central California ways.

In 1898, Mr. Wallers bought his present ranch on Melvin Road, five miles north of Fresno, at that time forty acres of unimproved land; and ap-

plying himself vigorously to the task, he transformed it into as valuable an asset as it was highly attractive to the eye. He set out twenty acres in a muscat vineyard, and planted twenty acres of Calimyrna figs, being one of the pioneer growers of Calimyrna figs in Fresno County. He built a residence and added the necessary outbuildings. Believing in corporation, he is an enthusiastic member of the California Associated Raisin Company, the California Fig Growers Association and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

While at San Francisco, in 1896, Mr. Wallers was married to Mrs. Madeline (Long) Thonen, born in Bessarabia, Russia, who died here in 1908, the mother of five children: Madeline, now Mrs. Williams, who lives at Delano, Cal.; Walter W., who is ranching at Clovis; H. Theodore, who is with the Southern Pacific in Fresno; Emil J.; and Clarence R. The present Mrs. Wallers was Mrs. Katie E. (Knaup) Pinnecker, their marriage occurring March 5, 1918. An independent in politics, Mr. Wallers belongs to the Hermann Sons and also to Manzanita Camp, Woodmen of the World.

CARL HITZL.—A citizen of the Parlier district in Fresno County, who has gained a name and place for himself, is Carl Hitzl, representative for the Setchel Fruit Company in the Lacjac district, buying, packing and shipping green fruit. This position he has held since March 1, 1919, due to the enforcement of the national prohibition laws, as he was formerly superintendent of the Sanford Winery and Distillery at Parlier.

Mr. Hitzl was born in Austria in 1870, reared and educated there and graduated from the Polytechnic at Vienna. He specialized in chemistry and followed his chosen calling in his native land prior to coming to America, which he did in 1892. He was located in New York City for a time, later went to Chicago and in 1907 came to California. In 1913 he took a position with the Sanford Winery at Parlier in Fresno County, acting as chemist and superintendent, as he had had many years of experience in the making of wines. He has spent a year in various parts of Europe making a special study of the methods used there.

The plant over which he had supervision covers a tract of ten acres and had fine shipping facilities, being situated between the Southern Pacific and Santa Fe railroads. He handled from 5,000 to 10,000 tons of grapes each season and the product was shipped to eastern markets. The business was established by Lachman & Jacobi in 1900.

In 1893, Carl Hitzl was united in marriage with Mame Martin and they have a son, Harry Hitzl. Fraternally Mr. Hitzl is a Mason, belonging to Independent Royal Arch Lodge No. 2, F. & A. M., in New York City.

HENRY H. KRAMER, JR.—One of the progressive young ranchers living in the vicinity of Sanger and owner of forty acres of land three miles west of that town is Henry H. Kramer, Jr. His father, Henry Kramer, Sr., is a native of Russia, born February 5, 1872, about seventy-five miles from Saratov, a son of Jacob Kramer, who married Katrina Tripple. Jacob Kramer died when his son, Henry, was twenty-one years of age. Henry attended the German schools in Russia and also learned to speak the Russian language, and when he was twenty years of age he married Margretha Schrader, and this union was blessed with five children: H. H., Jr.; Mina, the wife of August Scheibelhut, a rancher near Sanger; John, Willie and George. Henry Kramer, Sr., remained on his father's farm in Russia until he was over twenty years of age when he went to work on a ten-thousand-acre farm owned by Meyer Bros. By hard work he soon rose to the position of foreman, remaining with the owners for nine and a half years, when he wanted to resign and leave for America, but was persuaded to remain with them four years longer. In 1908, however, Mr. Kramer, accompanied by his family, sailed for the United States via Liverpool, landed in New York City, and thence continued their journey to Visalia, Cal., where they had a relative. There Mr. Kramer was employed in a brick yard for three years. He then

came to the vicinity of Sanger, purchased forty acres three miles west of Sanger, on North Avenue, built a comfortable home and improved the place by planting vines and trees.

H. H. Kramer, Jr., was born August 1, 1893, in the valley of the Volga River, Russia, and accompanied his parents to California in 1908, being then about fifteen years of age. The family arrived in Visalia, Cal., on October 15 of that year, and on January 1, 1912, H. H. Kramer, Jr., moved to Fresno County where he became owner of a splendid ranch of twenty acres, it being half of the land owned by his father and given to the son. This property he sold in May, 1919. Mr. Kramer rents 200 acres of land whereon he successfully operates an extensive vineyard and has become one of the largest growers of raisins in this section of the county, employing eight men regularly and during the packing season, thirty-five extra persons. After selling the home place Mr. Kramer bought forty acres adjoining on the northeast, where he will make his home.

On February 1, 1914, H. H. Kramer, Jr., was united in marriage with Miss Christina Winter, daughter of Karl Winter, a sketch of whose life will be found on another page of this history. This happy union has been blessed with three children: Clara, John, and Alvena. Mrs. Kramer is a devoted mother and an excellent helpmate to her husband, who is a man of splendid character and business ability. The family is held in high esteem.

WILLIAM ORR.—A resident of California for more than fifty years, William Orr is well and favorably known for his genial good nature. He was born in Prince Edwards Isle, April 15, 1848, and his father Capt. William Orr was born on the Clyde in Scotland, coming when ten years of age with his parents to Prince Edwards Isle, where he grew to manhood and learned the ship-builders' trade and afterwards he engaged in ship building. Later he sailed his own vessels as master or captain in the coasting trade following it until he retired and then came to California in 1874 where he spent his last days. William Orr's mother was Janet Semper, born in Prince Edwards Isle of Scotch parents; she also died in California. They had twelve children as follows: James was accidentally killed when he was nineteen years of age; Margaret is the wife of Captain McLeod who came to California in 1867 and resides in Pacific Grove; Elizabeth, Mrs. Webster, came to California with William and resides in San Luis Obispo; William, our subject; Robert, a dairyman near Hollister; Lemuel died while residing near Hollister; Oliver is also a dairyman at Hollister; Maria Jane is Mrs. Lamont of San Francisco; Mark came to California in the early seventies, he started overland for Leadville, Colo., and was lost track of for a time but the family finally learned he had been killed by Indians enroute; Albert lives near Hollister; Harriet M. is Mrs. McCobb of Pasadena, and Richard is a farmer near Lemoore.

William Orr was reared on his father's farm on the Atlantic Coast, for although a seafaring man his father lived with his family on a farm and he received a good education in the district schools of his native place. William did not like the life of a sailor so he naturally gave all the more attention to farming as he grew up and chose that for his calling. In October, 1869, he came to San Benito County, Cal., where he was employed at ranching until November, 1873. He then purchased a band of sheep and drove them to Fresno County. He bought a claim on the Polvadero and had his headquarters there. As early as 1874 he hauled his wool to Fresno, then a small place. They had mail once a month and he used to drive over the Coast Range via Pacheco Pass to Gilroy for his provisions for the first three years. In 1884 he located on his present place; here he bought out a man's location and took a preemption and then a homestead, this being the nucleus of his present large ranch. He was successful raising sheep though he had many ups and downs. In 1877, the dry year, he lost heavily and it broke him for the time being, but he went ahead and in time cleared the debt he had contracted. At times his flocks have numbered 10,000 head. From time to time he purchased more land and now

owns about 4,000 acres. His headquarters are about twenty miles southeast of Coalinga the ranch lying on the Fresno and Kings County line and is watered by Tar Creek as well as numerous springs and wells. The last few years he has also engaged in cattle raising. He is a stockholder in the Hanford National Bank. Always interested in education he helped build the first schools of his district in Fresno County while living on the Polvadero. Always a protectionist, Mr. Orr is a staunch Republican.

C. FELIX LARSON.—The lineage of the Larson family is traced to the far northern country of Finland, where the subject of this sketch, C. Felix Larson, was born on December 12, 1879. He was reared and educated in his native country, and in due time learned the trade of a carpenter. In 1902, he immigrated to the United States and spent the summer season in Alaska, where he was engaged in carpenter work. He continued to conduct his business affairs in this way for six years, when he purchased a tract of land in Fresno County, upon which he spent considerable money in developing it and trying to raise crops, but owing to a scarcity of water the crops were a failure and he was obliged to abandon his project and leave the place, but he decided to try again and in 1908 he purchased his present ranch of fifteen acres. The land was in its virgin state, but by hard work and industrious efforts he has succeeded in developing the place to a most attractive home. His buildings are well constructed, modern and conveniently arranged; in fact, his place is the most desirable one in the community. Mr. Larson specializes in peaches and Thompson's seedless grapes. He belongs to the Peach and Raisin Growers associations.

On August 24, 1916, C. Felix Larson and Miss Olga Marie Arnell were united in marriage and this union has been blessed with two children: Olave Daniel and Theodore Felix Leonard. Mr. Larson is a self-made man, having been dependent upon his own efforts for a livelihood since a young man. He has made a place in the world for himself by overcoming adverse circumstances, and through his self-reliant spirit and determined will has attained success.

HANS LINSHOFT.—A well-posted landscape gardener who comes of a family distinguished for its scholarly and educational pursuits, and who now has improved for himself one of the choice places in Fresno County, is Hans Linshoft, a native of Germany who came to California a decade and more ago. He was born at Rutenbeck, Mecklenburg-Schwerin, on March 19, 1880, the son of Theodore Linshoft, for many years an educator and still living. His mother was Louise Langermann, also a native of that section; she died in 1889, mourned by five children.

Hans was the second eldest in the family, and enjoyed the usual school advantages. When fifteen he was apprenticed to a florist and landscape gardener, with whom he continued for three years; then he went as a journeyman through Germany, Switzerland, Italy, France, and neighboring territories, to widen his knowledge of the science and art in his field, and thereafter served two years in the Bavarian Army.

By 1906 the New World began to appeal to him more than his own country. He came direct to Fresno, Cal. by way of Galveston, and secured a position in a vineyard in Holland Colony, where he began to study California conditions, especially viticulture. Because of his previous broad experience as a gardener, he soon mastered the new line of work; and as he was industrious and plain in living, he made steady progress toward a modest independence, where others failed. In two years he had saved enough money to enable him to lease some land in the Victoria Colony, and there he engaged in gardening, selling his produce in Fresno. At the end of three years, he began to care for vineyards and orchards in the same locality; and having during the year established some reputation for expertness in that line, he rented a vineyard on Blackstone Avenue and brought the land to a high state of cultivation.



Andres Errotabere
Joaquina Errotabere

In the fall of 1912 Mr. Linshoft bought this twenty acres in the Granville district and at once began extensive improvements, planting it to alfalfa and setting out a vineyard; and about the same time he became foreman of the Malter vineyard in the same neighborhood. A couple of years later, he resigned to give all his time and energy to his own property; but in 1916 he was again in charge of the Malter place. The twenty acres referred to he has given up to alfalfa, vines and figs. The ranch is under the Fancher Creek canal, from which it receives an adequate supply of water, and now includes a fine residence and all the necessary outbuildings. Mr. Linshoft's work in viticulture has proven absorbing, and he has become an enthusiastic advocate and member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

At Fresno, Mr. Linshoft was married to Mrs. Pauline (Adloff) Linshoft, a native of Thuringia, Germany, and the widow of his brother. One child, Lillie, has blessed their union. Having very early applied for his first naturalization papers, Mr. Linshoft was made a full citizen of the United States on December 18, 1911. He belongs to the Hermann Sons and the Woodmen of the World. In religious matters he is independent.

ANDRES ERROTABERE.—A splendid example of a young man who has made a success of stockraising by his steady, close application to business is Andres Errotabere, a native of Bastan, Navarra, Spain, born November 27, 1884, the seventh oldest of thirteen children born to Jose and Marie Errotabere, who removed from Bastan, Spain, to Biagorry, Basses Pyrenees, France, in 1884, and there the mother died while the father is still living. Three members of their family, Andres, Pedro and Martin, are in California and are engaged in the stock business together.

Andres was reared on a farm in the south of France, the family being very large. Having learned of the wonderful possibilities in California that awaited young men who were willing to work he came to San Francisco in 1903. Making his way to Los Banos he was employed by a stock grower, working for a period of three years at twenty-five dollars a month. During this time he drove the owner's sheep into the high Sierra mountains. In the fall of the year he has been caught in the snow, thus enduring great cold and hardships. By his industry and economy he saved enough money so that in 1906 he purchased a band of sheep and ranged them in the San Joaquin Valley. In 1909 he came to Huron and this vicinity has been the scene of his operations ever since. Aside from sheep and wool growing he went in for grain raising, leasing about 1,500 acres of land for the purpose. In 1917 he took his two brothers, Pedro and Martin, into partnership.

Mr. Errotabere was married in Fresno April 25, 1916, being united with Miss Joaquina Esnoz who was born in Olodres, Navarra, Spain, who came to Fresno in 1911, and is a sister of Mrs. Domingo Bidegaray. They have two children: Jose Andrew and Martin J. They are members of the Catholic Church in Coalinga.

GEORGE ANDREAS GLEIM.—A hard-working and successful rancher in the DeWolf school district, who has turned his fields of wheat stubble and weeds into blooming acres with fruitful harvests, and who by thus contributing to solve the economic problems of the war-time is deserving of the respect and good will of his fellow men, is George Andreas Gleim, who owns and operates twenty acres now planted to peaches and Thompson seedless grapes. He bought his place on August 29, 1903, and moved onto the land on the twenty-sixth of the following December. He and his family then took shelter in the barn, which they converted temporarily into a dwelling house, which served them until he built his fine bungalow in 1912. In the beginning, the weeds were often six and seven feet high.

Mr. Gleim was born in the Province of Samara, on the Volga, at Prewalnaja P. O., in the Colony of Skatowka, Russia, seventy-five miles east of Saratov. His parents, Heinrich and Christina Margareta (Nilmeier),

Gleim, were farmers who lived and died in Russia. He grew up on his father's farm, where he early learned to handle horses and stock, and to drive oxen hitched to plows, and also to tread out the wheat, rye, oats and barley in their manner of threshing in that region.

He attended the German schools and for two years attended the Russian public schools. When twenty-one, he served five years in the Russian army, guarding the boundary line between Russia and Austria. After that, on February 15, 1894, he was married and for six years farmed in Russia. Then reading about California, he decided to leave the Old World and come here.

He sold out his holdings in Russia and with his wife and three children crossed to Bremerhafen, Germany, from which port he took passage on the steamship Borkom, which ran between Bremen and Galveston. After twenty-two days on the ocean, he took the Santa Fe to Fresno, where he arrived on July 27, 1900. He had only seventy dollars when he came here, but he immediately took work on a ranch, putting in ten hours a day for one dollar and a half. He continued to work for others in that way that season; and then he moved to Fresno and built a little house at 626 E Street, where he lived while working at odd jobs at a dollar and a quarter for a ten-hour day.

His next move was to buy his present place, and he had to borrow \$100 to make the first payment, and the undertaking was by no means light; but his good wife helped him, and together they worked very hard. To equip himself to dig the earth out of the irrigation ditches, he traded his town house for a four-horse team and scraping outfit. His brother-in-law, Peter Lieder, about that time took the contract of bundling the brush on the Fresno Winery ranch, and Mr. Gleim worked steadily for him for two months, from four o'clock in the morning until eight in the evening, when he made just thirty-three dollars for the two months.

Mr. and Mrs. Gleim are the happy parents of four children, having also lost an equal number in death. Christina is the wife of Fred Seibert and they live in Fresno with their two children, LeRoy K. and Stanley Frederick; and there are Bertha K., Harry G., and Lloyd W. Mr. and Mrs. Gleim and family belong to the German Lutheran Church on F Street in Fresno, which church's edifice he helped to build.

Mr. Gleim was naturalized on March 26, 1914, and early joined the ranks of the Republican party. He is a booster for Fresno County, and was active in the sale of war bonds, and helping the Red Cross. As a happy family, they have an ideal life in the country. Mrs. Gleim is an excellent cook and knows how to make appetizing and nutritious foods from the products of the farm.

HARRY S. SERIAN.—No people of modern times have been so persecuted in their native country as the Armenians, and many of that nationality have sought refuge from their Turkish oppressors in the United States, which continues to be a haven of refuge as in the earlier days of its colonial history when the Pilgrim Fathers sought a home beyond the sea where they might worship their God as their consciences dictated.

Fresno County has quite a contingent of Armenians in various sections, among who, in the vicinity of Selma, Harry S. Serian, the Armenian rancher, is well known. His highly improved 160-acre ranch lies four miles east of Selma. Mr. Serian's four brothers spell their name Serimian, the difference in the orthography of the names probably arising from a change in the assessor's books and in deeds, which was allowed to remain.

Harry S. Serian was born near Harpoot, Armenia, forty-eight years ago, and came to America in 1891, when nineteen years of age, without financial means and in debt for the money which paid his passage to the United States. He repaid the money borrowed for his passage out of his first earnings, and later sent back one thousand dollars to help his father in Armenia, besides assisting his four brothers and mother to come to California. His father, Sarkis Serimian, a drayman in the old country, died in Armenia after his son

Harry came to America. His mother, who in her girlhood was Lillie Kujolian and who is now approaching seventy years of age, lives with her youngest son, Jacob Serimian, on their near-by ranch. Two of his sisters are living in Armenia. His brother, A. S. Serimian, has a wife and four children, and lives on his ninety-acre ranch near our subject. Another brother, C. S. Serimian, is married and has three children, and is the owner of an eighty-acre ranch. G. S. Serimian, called Charlie, has a wife and two children, and lives on the S. McCall road, three miles south of Selma, on his forty-acre ranch. Jacob, with whom the mother lives, also owns a forty-acre ranch.

When a young man in Armenia, H. S. Serian married Rosa Scandarian, a native of that country, and they are the parents of four children, all living at home. They are: Roxy, Moses, Serak, and Aram. Mr. Serian came to America alone, his wife joining him eight years later. After coming to the United States Mr. Serian worked two years in a factory in New York City, from thence going to Chicago where he worked four years in a shoe factory. In 1897 he came to California, settling at Parlier where he rented land from Louis Say for four years, afterwards renting the Harry Say place north of Selma for three years, and during this time, in 1901, he purchased his first eighty acres, the nucleus of his present place, working both places and planting his eighty acres with his own hands. In 1912 he added another thirty acres to the eighty, and in 1918 bought ten acres more, and in 1919 bought another forty, making 160 acres altogether.

Nine years ago Mr. Serian was taken with a serious affection of the optic nerve, and despite the best medical aid his eyesight began to fail, resulting two years ago in total blindness. He is dependent upon his little son Serak to lead him about. He has been phenomenally successful since coming to California. In 1917 he built on his ranch a beautiful \$12,000 country residence, thirty-two by sixty-two feet in dimensions, the finest home between Selma and Parlier.

Beginning at the foot of the ladder in a foreign country, without means or influence, incumbered with debt, he has prospered and steadily advanced to the position he now occupies, a man of influence in the community in which he lives.

MARTIN CHRISTENSEN.—An excellent example of what can be accomplished in California, by an energetic young man without means but endowed with good character, thrift and a persevering nature that can surmount all obstacles to success, is manifested in the career of Martin Christensen, a prosperous viticulturist residing in Sanger, Fresno County, Cal.

Martin Christensen is a native of Denmark, where he was born on December 21, 1878, a son of James and Mary Christensen, also of Denmark. He was reared and educated in his native land, and in the year 1901 he immigrated to the United States, locating at Wheatville, Cal. Here he was engaged in dairying for three years. Mr. Christensen has spent seventeen years in Fresno County. He is a progressive farmer and believes in using the most up-to-date methods in the cultivation and propagation of his products.

Mr. Christensen is deserving of much credit for achieving the success he has won in so short a time, as he began with nothing, and in a few years became the owner of a forty-acre ranch, devoted to raising Thompson seedless grapes. His well kept ranch evidenced the marks of thrift and progress of this enterprising rancher. In the fall of 1918 he sold out and intends making a trip to his native land for a visit.

On July 6, 1915, Martin Christensen was united in marriage with Johanna Neilsen, a native of Denmark, where she was born on January 29, 1886. They were engaged to be married while he was on a trip back to his native land, then she joined him in America and he met her in San Francisco and they were married there. Their marriage was blessed by one child, a son, Gunnar. The Christensen family are members of the Danish Church.

CHRISTIAN SORENSEN.—A native of Denmark, Christian Sorensen was born near the town of Randers, Jutland, on December 10, 1865, and was the third child of a family of six born to Soren and Christine (Pedersen) Sorensen, also natives of Denmark, both of whom are now deceased. Their six children are: Soren, a rancher who resides three miles west of Selma; N. P., who owns ten acres of land three one-half miles southwest of Parlier; Christian; Christine, who is the wife of Knut Christensen, a farmer residing in Denmark; Anna M., whose sketch appears upon another page of this history, and who is the widow of Niels Andersen; Mette Marie, who married Knud Knudsen, and resides at Vejle, Denmark.

Christian Sorensen was reared in Denmark, where he worked out by the month on farms and gained valuable knowledge and experience in stock-raising, dairying and farming. Having two older brothers in California, he decided to take a trip to America, so engaging passage on the good old ship Thingvalla, of the Thingvalla Line, he sailed from Copenhagen, January 10, 1893, landing in New York City about February 1st., and from there he continued his journey at once to Fresno County, Cal., where his brothers, N. P. and Soren, were living. He secured employment in the Fresno Colony, working on farms, in which occupation he continued for several years. In 1900, he rented a farm near Sultana and after three years purchased the place, consisting of twenty acres, improved it, and subsequently added more land until he possessed thirty acres. This ranch he recently sold and has purchased twenty acres located three one-half miles southwest of Parlier.

On March 2, 1909, Christian Sorensen was united in marriage with Christine Christensen, a native of Denmark, who came to Fresno County when a young lady. This happy union has been blessed with four children: Holger; Einar; Alfred; and baby Ellen, who was born May 19, 1918.

Mr. and Mrs. Sorensen are justly esteemed in their community and have many friends. Mr. Sorensen is a prominent member of the Danish Lutheran Church and the Danish Brotherhood, and in political matters is a Republican.

THEODORE H. SCHUKNECHT.—Among Fresno County's successful men of the later period is Theodore H. Schuknecht, who owns two ranches of forty acres each in the Lone Star section, and sixty acres in Tulare County. Mr. Schuknecht was born near Waterloo, Iowa, February 24, 1868. His father, Christopher, and mother, Fredericka (Rahn) Schuknecht, were both born and married in Germany, and immediately after marriage came to America. They became the owners of a 160-acre farm, and also of a hardware store in Tripoli, Iowa, which they operated in connection with the farm. They raised a family of thirteen children, of whom Theodore is the sixth. Three girls and five boys are still living. Ten grew to manhood and womanhood.

Mr. Schuknecht spent his boyhood days in Iowa, attended the common schools, and spent a short time at the high school. At the age of nineteen the whole care of the home place fell upon him, because of an accident to his father, who was gored by a mad bull, and died at the age of fifty-five. His mother died in Iowa at the age of sixty-three years.

In 1892 Theodore Schuknecht was married to Miss Mabel Bennett, whose parents, E. C. and Amelia (Dickey) Bennett, were likewise early settlers of Iowa. They were originally from Connecticut and Pennsylvania, respectively. Mr. and Mrs. Schuknecht have one child, Randolph, who graduated from the Fowler High School.

Mr. Schuknecht owned a farm of 160 acres in Iowa and farmed there until 1907, when, desiring to get away from the rigorous winters of Iowa, they moved to the Pacific Coast. He had his heart set on the Rogue River Valley, Ore., and consequently bought tickets for Medford, Ore., but when he arrived there he was afraid of the damp climate, on account of his son, who was in feeble health. He decided to see more of the country before he settled down, and so came to Fresno County, Cal., looked over the country and took an

option on forty acres, which has become his home. He then made an extended trip through Southern California, but returned to Fresno and began to improve his place. This was twelve years ago. Four years later he bought another place of forty acres adjoining on the north, and in 1917 bought sixty acres at Orosi, Tulare County. The two ranches near Lone Star are devoted to Thompson seedless and muscat raisins, while the ranch at Orosi is devoted to malagas and emperors; there are eight acres of black mission figs and eight acres valencia oranges, the balance being devoted to the home buildings and to alfalfa. He rents out the two ranches at Lone Star, and with the aid of hired help takes care of the Orosi ranch himself.

His raisins are very choice. A certain woman made a business for several years past of supplying particular and discriminating customers in the East with choice layer raisins put up in fancy packages. She bought them from the painstaking growers, and for two seasons sold the raisins bought from Mr. Schuknecht, and grown on his ranches in Fresno County, to the White House, at Washington, D. C., so that his product has found its way to the table of President Wilson.

Mr. Schuknecht is a progressive and wide-awake man. In politics a Republican, he has a keen insight into political matters, and fights graft and grafters. He helps along every worthy object, stands four-square behind the government, and patriotically supports its war measures. He is interested in the Raisin Growers' Association, and has served as member of the school board of the Lone Star district. He and his family are members of the First Presbyterian Church at Fowler. Mrs. Schuknecht supplies all that is needed in the home-maker, and her worth is known outside the family gates.

FRED H. HANSEN.—A Fresno family of special interest is that of Fred H. Hansen, the vineyardist. His grandfather, Fred Hansen, was a sailor who settled in the United States and reared a family, in which our subject's father, Fred Hansen, was the eldest son. He grew up in Tennessee as a farmer, and in 1884 he brought his family to San Francisco, where he was a carpenter and builder, and where he continued to reside until he died. There also passed away his good wife, who had been Martha Murray, a native of Tennessee, and who became the mother of six children.

Born in Bradford County, Tenn., on August 26, 1882, Fred H. was the oldest child, and now the only one in California; he was brought up in San Francisco, where he attended both the grammar and high schools. In June, 1898, however, when the martial spirit was at its height, he left the high school for service in the Spanish-American War, and joined Company K, Fourteenth United States Infantry. With the regiment he went to the Philippines and nine months later he was honorably discharged. He immediately reenlisted in Company K of the same regiment, went to China and there helped relieve the hard-pressed legation at Peking. Then he returned to Manila, from which point his regiment was sent home, but he was transferred to Company A of the Tenth United States Infantry, and served in the southern islands and the Moro country. At the close of his term he was honorably discharged at Pt. a Princessa, Island of Palawan, when he made his way back to San Francisco.

In that city, on February 16, 1905, Mr. Hansen was married to Miss Christene Spomar, a native of Great Falls, Mont., and the daughter of A. S. and Anna (Rhinehart) Spomar. The father was a stockman who later came out to San Francisco and now resides in Fresno, near which town for some years he was engaged in vineyarding. In 1906, after the big fire in San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Hansen located in Fresno County and engaged in viticulture, and soon after they bought their present forty-acre ranch two miles northwest of Clovis. Mr. Hansen immediately began the work of improving the land, and since then he has set and reset the vineyard, so that his property is now very valuable. He has also bought twenty acres one and a

half miles to the north in the Garfield district, and has leveled and checked the land and planted it to alfalfa; and he has purchased twenty other acres in the same district, which he has set out to Calimyrna figs.

For the past six years Mr. Hansen has been the representative of the Earl Fruit Company for the Clovis district. He has charge of two packing houses, one at Melvin and the other at Glorietta, and has brought to a very desirable status their specialty of shipping fresh grapes, peaches and plums. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, as he has been of the successive preceding associations for boosting the raisin industry; and is also a member and a director of the California Fig Association. In social and commercial circles he is a familiar figure as one of the active members of the Commercial Club of Fresno.

About seven years ago Mrs. Hansen, who is the mother of a daughter, Evelyn, began to make up figs and raisins in fancy packs, putting them on the market under the now popular Sierra Vista brand, and having begun her enterprise on the home ranch and in a modest way, she has continued it ever since, seeing it grow to much greater proportions. Wishing to expand the business which was making such a big increase each year, in 1919 she built a new packing-house, selecting the J. C. Forkner fig garden (which embraces 10,000 acres of figs, the largest fig garden in the world) for the location. Here has been erected a building especially designed and built for the preparation and packing of the Sierra Vista brand, which has become very popular all over the United States and is also shipped to foreign countries. Her exhibit at the Panama Pacific Exposition at San Francisco in 1915 won the highest award for figs. Mrs. Hansen has also made a specialty of packing select muscat raisins, and has come to be known as one of the foremost business women of California.

H. KAZARIAN.—America has always offered refuge to the weary and oppressed of every nation, and many have come and found here the shelter their own countries denied them. Happy, contented and prosperous, these people, by splendid citizenship and loyal devotion to the land of their adoption, are repaying for the asylum thus provided for them. Of no one is this more true than of H. Kazarian, who is the owner of a ranch two miles northwest of Fowler.

Mr. Kazarian was born on Easter Sunday, in April, 1857, at Marsovan (the seat of Anatolian College), Armenia, in Asiatic Turkey. He stayed at home on his father's place until his thirteenth year. The father, Lazarus Kazarian, was a laborer and owned a small farm. He is now one hundred years old, and his wife is over one hundred. They live with their son.

As a boy, Mr. Kazarian was very precocious, learning readily; although the schools were not good in Armenia, he learned to read, write and speak in the Armenian, Turkish and Greek languages at the early age of thirteen years. As a result, at this age he went to Constantinople with a commission merchant, and became his corresponding secretary. He remained there until the breaking out of the Turko-Russian War, when he was eighteen years of age. He left Constantinople, sailing to Liverpool and thence to New York, landing in May, 1875. There were only about twenty-five Armenians in Brooklyn and New York City at that time. He became interested in the sale of Oriental rugs, first as salesman, and next as a partner with his father-in-law, H. Iskian. After seven years of unsuccessful effort in building up this business, Mr. Kazarian engaged to work for the Abraham & Strauss Department Store, in Brooklyn, as head of the Oriental rug department. He remained with them until 1903, when he came to California, stopping first at Fresno, where he stayed for nine months. In July, 1904, he came to Fowler, and bought the place that is now his home, a ranch of forty acres, of which he has sold ten acres. In 1881, he went back to Turkey and brought his father

and one brother here, and five years later sent for his mother, one brother and his sisters, helping them all to come to America.

Mr. Kazarian was twice married, first to Miss Lucy Iskian, of Brooklyn, to whom were born four children, two of whom grew up: Victoria, wife of John Hagopian, fruit contractor at Fresno; and Lily, wife of Simon Hagopian (no kin), a poultryman at Petaluma. A separation occurred, and he married Mrs. M. Shahbazian, a widow with two children: Charles Shahbazian, at home; and George, employed in the shipyards at Oakland, Cal. Mr. Kazarian has one child by his second marriage, William Howard Taft Kazarian, attending the grammar school in Fowler. Mr. Kazarian is a member of the Gregorian Armenian Church at Fowler, and served as trustee at one time. He is loyal to all the calls of his adopted country, has bought Liberty Bonds, subscribed to the Red Cross, and in everything has shown himself to be in sympathy with all that goes to make for progress. Open-hearted and generous, he is one of the prominent citizens of Fresno County.

MADS MADSEN.—Born in Denmark, August 28, 1878, Mads Madsen is a son of C. and Marie Madsen, natives of that country. Of the nine children born to his parents, five of whom are now living, Mr. Madsen is the only one to immigrate to the United States, which he did in 1904, seeking new opportunities in the newer land. After his arrival here, he first located for a time in Albert Lea, Minn., and there his marriage occurred, in 1907, uniting him with Miss Bine Petersen, a native of Denmark, born on March 23, 1875. The young couple migrated west to California in 1908, and here Mr. Madsen engaged in ranching, first owning a small ranch, which he used as a stepping-stone to the better and larger one he now owns, consisting of twenty acres, in the Parlier district, Fresno County. An experienced tiller of the soil, and thoroughly understanding the culture of the vine, Mr. Madsen has met with deserved success in his development work, and, with a promising and prosperous future before him, he is a valued citizen of the community. Though a resident of this country for only fifteen years, he is fluent of speech in good, plain English, and is a loyal American by adoption, having cast his first vote for President Wilson.

Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Madsen, five of whom are living, as follows: Marie; Chris; Ethel; Frances; and Ivar. The family are members of the Danish Church. Mr. Madsen is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

JOHN GATTIE.—A Californian of Italian birth, who has made his own way ever since he came to the Golden State as a lad of fifteen, and who now owns a good ranch, is John Gattie, who was born in the province of Naples in 1866, the son of Antonio Gattie, a well-to-do farmer of that locality. He thus learned farming as a lad, meanwhile attending the excellent Italian public schools.

John Gattie had a brother, Carmino, in California, and in 1881 he crossed the ocean and then came to the coast to join him, settling first in Stockton and immediately going to work on a ranch. He drove the big teams and otherwise made himself useful in work requiring hardihood and daring. Seven years later he came to Fresno County, and found no difficulty in getting employment at good wages in the vineyards. He commenced with the St. George vineyard, and there continued six years. Then he bought twenty acres in the Scandinavian Colony, the land being now the site of the Rossler winery. This he at once set out as a vineyard, but after a few years he sold it and bought a residence in Fresno. He continued viticulture, however, realizing its great possibilities for the years to come.

In 1897, Mr. Gattie bought his present place of twenty acres, which he set out as a vineyard; and having built a fine residence on the property, he has made his home there ever since. Later he bought an adjoining twenty

acres, so that he now has forty acres there given up to the raising of grapes and alfalfa.

But in 1911 he made still another investment, purchasing eighty acres five miles north of his place. He set out forty acres as a vineyard, improved the land generally, and in three years sold it at a profit. Thereupon he bought twenty acres in the Helm tract, where he is making a great success raising table and raisin grapes. He belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company and has encouraged all the raisin-growing associations started since the original one was proposed.

On November 1, 1888, in Fresno, Mr. Gattie was married to Miss Carmilla Perfetto, also a native of Naples, who came to Fresno in September, 1888. Eleven children have been born to this worthy couple: Antonio, the eldest, who resides in Fresno; Rosina, Mrs. Perrino, of Fresno; Elizabeth, Mrs. Nichol, also of Fresno; and Louis, Theresa, Jennie, Emil, Laura, Elvira, Viola, and Elsie Agnes, all of whom reside with their parents. Like many another Californian of foreign birth, Mr. Gattie is one of the most loyal and patriotic of our citizens. A Republican in matters of national politics, in local affairs he seeks to support the best man and the fairest measure, regardless of party affiliations; and he is always ready to advance the permanent interest of Fresno and vicinity.

JOE CAZEILS.—A successful blacksmith and first-class mechanic, who by honest efforts and hard work is building up a large patronage at Reedley, is Joe Cazeils, a native of France, where he first saw the light of day in 1877. He is the son of Peter and Nancy Ann Cazeils, natives of France and the parents of four children, two of whom are in the United States—one being in Nevada, and the other being Joe Cazeils of this review. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Cazeils are both deceased.

Joe Cazeils was reared and educated in his native land. In his twenty-sixth year, 1903, he immigrated to the United States, coming directly to Fresno County, Cal. Before leaving France he learned the trade of a blacksmith, but had to supplement his knowledge, after arriving here, with some of the American ideas. For three years he was employed by the California Wine Association, but in 1913 he removed to Reedley and there established himself in his present spacious and well-equipped quarters, which comprise a shop thirty-four by sixty feet in floor space. He owns two lots whose total frontage is 100 feet and whose depth is 125 feet. The shop is fitted for doing woodwork as well as machine work, and is equipped with all modern machinery for conducting a first-class general blacksmithing and horseshoeing business. By rendering first-class service to his patrons, Mr. Cazeils is not only gaining financial success, but is winning that which is even more to be desired, the respect of his associates and the confidence of the community.

G. GOOGOOIAN.—Another of those men who have found in this country an asylum from oppression and wrong, and who have shown their appreciation by making good use of their opportunities, is G. Googooian, who owns a highly improved ranch of eighty acres five miles west of Sanger, on Jensen Avenue, with a beautiful residence which he rebuilt in 1917. He is a pioneer raisin grower, a stockholder and member of the California Raisin Growers' Association, and a man highly regarded for his many good qualities.

Mr. Googooian was born near Harpoot, in Armenia, forty-nine years ago. When he was four years old his parents died, and he was brought up in a cousin's home. He accumulated some property as he grew up, and desiring to get away from the oppression of the Turkish government, he mortgaged this to pay his ransom and secure the money for passage to America. Landing in New York in 1885, he went to Boston and Salem, Mass., where he worked in tanneries and shoe factories. He sent back to Armenia for his wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Melcon, and in 1904 came to California, purchasing the place that is now his home. He is the second oldest set-



Mr + Mrs. Matias Serrano

tlar in the Lone Star district, Mr. John Gerner being the first. The family consists of himself and wife, with three girls and two boys: Gugus, who married Rosa Samorgian and resides at Fresno; Louisa, at home; Annie; Martha; and Thomas, are students in the Highland Colony school.

Mr. Googooian is a man of intelligence and a hard worker, and as a consequence is unusually successful. He now possesses seventy-seven and a half acres of land, of which two and a half acres are taken up by the Santa Fe right of way, four acres in alfalfa and building spot, and the balance in trees and vines. He is a generous and hospitable man, and lives a consistent Christian life. In connection with his family it should be mentioned that a sister, who is blind, is also living with them. Her name is Anna Googooian. The family are members of the Armenian Congregational Church at Fresno. In politics Mr. Googooian supports the Republican party.

MATIAS SERRANO.—A successful stock-raiser of the West Side in Fresno County, is Matias Serrano of Huron. He is a native of Spain, born at Aincioa, Ballie Erro, Navarra, February 24, 1883, the son of Miguel and Besanta (Villanueva) Serrano, farmers of that region.

Matias, the third oldest of their family of five children, was reared on the farm and educated in the public schools. He had a brother, Florencio, who had come to California, and Matias, hearing the glowing accounts of opportunities in California, resolved to come hither, so on December 11, 1900, he arrived in Fresno. The first winter was spent herding sheep at Mendota. In April, 1901, he made his way to Nevada, where his brother was raising sheep in Esmeralda County. Working for him and others he made a "stake" sufficient to enable him and a cousin, Domingo Serrano, to purchase a flock of sheep and they ranged them in Nevada until October, 1909, when they brought them to Stockton, continuing business together as Serrano and Company ever since; Matias having the management of the business. In 1916, Mr. Serrano purchased eighty acres two and a half miles south of Huron, where he makes his home and headquarters. Having purchased additional land they own 400 acres and are also leasing lands for ranging their sheep, running from 3,000 to 4,000 head.

Mr. Serrano was married in Reno, Nev., March 9, 1909, being united with Besanta Cartago, also a native of Navarra, Spain, who came to Nevada in 1907. They have five interesting children: Florencio, Braulia, Manuella, Filippa, and Julia. Mr. Serrano is one of the original stockholders in the Growers National Bank of Fresno. Enterprising and progressive, Mr. and Mrs. Serrano are favorably known and well liked in their social circle.

ALBERT KEVORKIAN.—Although born many miles across land and sea from his present home, Albert Kevorkian has spent all of his mature years in Fresno County, and early proved his adaptability to the new environment. An extremely enterprising young rancher, he has amassed a comfortable fortune in a few short years, and is now one of the leading individual viticulturists of the county. Born in Erzroom, Asia Minor, March 5, 1885, he is a son of Nazareth and Shogot (Kazegian) Kevorkian, both natives of Erzroom. The father was a shoemaker in that country, and died there in 1901. After his death, the mother brought her children to California and settled in Fresno that same year. The children are as follows: Mary, Mrs. Ketchebishian; Rosa, Mrs. Markarian; Satanig, Mrs. Hovsepian; Albert; and Haig. All are living in Fresno County, as is also the mother, now aged seventy-six, who makes her home with her children.

Albert Kevorkian was reared in the city of Erzroom, a place of 150,000 population, and there received a good education in the local schools. He came to Fresno with the family in 1901. Being the eldest of the children, he immediately went to work to help his mother, and had opportunity for but one month's schooling in English, acquiring the new language by self-study. He secured work in the vineyards and orchards, helped plant the Markarian fig orchard, on Blackstone Avenue, and worked on other ranches. In 1907, with

H. Hovsepien, he purchased sixty acres of land five miles west of Fresno and engaged in raising alfalfa and raisins. In 1909 his brother Haig bought the half interest from Mr. Hovsepien. The brothers continued operating the sixty-acre ranch for eight years, raising alfalfa and raisins. Their industry and good management may be judged by the fact that in 1917 the brothers sold their holdings, for which the original purchase price was \$8,000, for the sum of \$24,000. This they divided between themselves and dissolved partnership.

On July 15, 1917, Albert Kevorkian, together with his brother-in-law, H. Hovsepien, purchased the Sunnyside Vineyards, consisting of 380 acres, five miles east of Fresno, and engaged in viticulture on an extensive scale. Mr. Kevorkian, as manager of the property is giving it his entire time and attention. The ranch is one of the oldest producing vineyards of this section. The shipping grapes are of the Tokay, Emperor, Malaga, and Thompson seedless varieties. Fifteen acres of the ranch is in navel oranges bearing full crops, and the balance is in muscat raisin grapes.

The marriage of Mr. Kevorkian, which occurred in Fresno, February 17, 1912, united him with Miss Rose Ajemian, a native of New Jersey, but reared and educated in Fresno County from the age of ten years. Two children have been born to them, Edward and Florence. Mr. Kevorkian is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. Full of energy and progressiveness, he has won success entirely through his own resources, and now ranks as one of the leading individual raisin growers of the county.

H. WILDERMUTH.—An experienced baker who, by close attention to business and the wants of his patrons, together with the help of his wife, has surrounded himself with many friends, all of whom have contributed to his prosperity, is H. Wildermuth, who had the good fortune to be converted in Germany, through the efforts of the Salvation Army, and is today, in his changed and improved condition, respected by everybody. He was born on September 4, 1882, the son of Jacob Wildermuth, a locksmith who died in Germany. He married Mina Seyter, who later came to America and died in Boston about three years ago. Jacob Wildermuth was a foreman in a factory for the making of builders' hardware, and was noted for the excellence of his workmanship.

The lad was sent to the usual schools of his native country, where he received a thorough grounding and a good preparation for the struggle with the great world about him, and he was brought up and in due time confirmed in the Lutheran Church. There were four sons and four daughters in the family, and he was the third child in the order of birth. When he was coming up to manhood, he served for two years in the Kaiser's army; but he did not like the experience, and that served as the last straw to induce him to leave Germany altogether and to push out alone to America.

He sailed from Hamburg to Boston on the trans-Atlantic liner Ivernia, and on December 14, 1905, landed at Boston. For six months he followed various lines of work, such as the making of ice cream, and after that was employed in bakeries. Toward the end of 1906 he decided to come West as far as the continent lay. In doing so he was the first of his family to reach California, and is now the only one of that group in the Golden State.

In December, therefore, of that year Mr. Wildermuth came to Pasadena and was engaged as a baker at the Hotel Raymond. At the end of the winter season, however, he removed to San Diego and for two years was with Frank Winter's bakery. While there, too, he was married to Miss Charlotte M. Priss, a native of Alsace-Lorraine, after which, in May, 1909, he came on to Porterville, where he was for four and a half years in business. He bought out the City Bakery, and when that grew too small, he erected a brick building in which he built up and conducted the Sanitary Bakery, operating both bakeries at the same time. The unavoidable obstacle of ill-health alone compelled him to sell out and abandon the enterprises.



Peter Lusconi

Mr. Wildermuth next ranched near Los Angeles, and when he had recuperated, he returned to Pasadena and became a bakery foreman, in the Eureka Bakery on East Villa Street. For a year and a half he went north to Orland in Glenn County and worked in an almond orchard, where he ran a tractor and did general farm work. He next came back to Porterville, prospecting for a business opening, but in February, 1919, he opened his business at Kingsburg, convinced that this town offered, after all, the best possible inducements. He likes Kingsburg, and no wonder, for Kingsburg likes him, his work and products, and his general way of doing.

Mr. Wildermuth bought the corner property at Traber and Ash Streets, a lot about 36x130 feet in size, and there, established what is known as the Kingsburg Bakery. His principal brands are the Snowflake and the Purity breads. Part of his structure is a story and a half high, and he requires every square foot for his growing trade. He also has installed a soda fountain, and he dispenses ice cream.

Mr. and Mrs. Wildermuth are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and there attend also their four children, Olga C., John H., Paul F. and Madaline E. Wildermuth.

PETER RUSCONI.—A dairyman of many years' experience on the West Side who was the first to make a success of intensive farming and dairying at San Joaquin is Peter Rusconi who was born at Sementina near Bellinzona, Ticino, Switzerland, November 23, 1886, who comes of an old family in that prosperous canton. He is the oldest of four children born to Charles and Linda (Malendri) Rusconi who are still living and farming in their native place. Peter is the only one of the family who migrated to the United States and was reared to the life of a farmer, receiving a good education in the schools of Switzerland. When eighteen years of age he came to Newman, Cal., in 1904. He was employed at farming and dairying for four years. Proving himself so steady and adept at dairying his employer offered to lease him his place at Crows Landing which Mr. Rusconi accepted and he ran a dairy of seventy-five cows from 1908 till 1910.

Moving to Los Banos he bought a dairy herd and leased a 600-acre ranch; 200 acres was in alfalfa and on the balance he raised grain. Here he ran a dairy of 100 head until 1915 when he disposed of the cows at auction sale and came to San Joaquin. He first bought sixty acres of raw land which he leveled, checked and sowed to alfalfa, and started the first dairy in this section. He purchased forty acres more and now has 100 acres improved with residence and farm buildings. January 1, 1919, he sold his dairy cows and rented the ranch. During this time, in September, 1918, he had leased the dairy from the San Joaquin Valley Farm & Land Company and ran both places until he rented his own. June 1, 1919, with a partner, Joseph Magini, he purchased the dairy and farm of sixty acres of alfalfa he was leasing and continues in the same line of business, his herd being composed of Holsteins. He built his residence in San Joaquin and also owns another residence as well as a store building there.

Mr. Rusconi was married in Modesto, October 10, 1908, to Elvira Moganti, born at Civio, Switzerland, and they have eight children: Alfred, Linda, Emil, Charles, Peter, Emma, Tillie and Mary.

Mr. Rusconi is a member of and a director of the First National Bank of San Joaquin; is a member of the San Joaquin Valley Milk Producers Association, and the Swiss Benevolent Society in San Francisco.

HENRY KERBER.—Another of those men of foreign birth who have found themselves in this land of America is Henry Kerber, who has made the most of his opportunities here. He was born in Russia, near Saratov, on the Volga River, August 13, 1871. His father was George, and his mother Marie Kerber. The father died in Russia at the age of forty-four years, in 1888, and the mother followed in 1889. There were two children, Henry and Katie, now the wife of Henry Spate, a rancher owning forty acres adjoining Mr. Kerber on the west. Henry Kerber was brought up on his father's farm

in Russia, in the German-Russian colony. He learned mostly in the German schools, but spent three winters in Russian schools; and he can read, speak and write both the Russian and German languages. He is now learning the English language from his children, who are attending the public school in the Locan school district. This is a good country school, where three teachers are employed.

Henry Kerber was eighteen when his father died, and then was apprenticed to the wagon-maker's trade, at which he served four years. This was at Stepania, Russia. After he came to Fresno he learned the carpenter's trade. With his family, Mr. Kerber came to America in 1900, and settled in the city of Fresno. His family consists of eight children: Marie, born in Russia, and Christina, Henry, Jr., Mollie, Lydia, Leah, George and Albert, were all born in Fresno County. For nine years Mr. Kerber applied himself to his trades, and his handiwork is found in many of the buildings around Fresno. He was frugal and saving, and nine years ago he bought the twenty-acre ranch where he now lives. He built a good house on his ranch, together with the other necessary buildings and since he left Fresno nine years ago he has devoted his time principally to farming and raising grapes. Some of his neighbors have been benefited by his knowledge of construction, as he has built their homes for them. Mrs. Kerber has proven herself a true helpmeet for her husband.

EUGENE P. THOME.—From sunny France have come so many of the most desirable of foreign settlers in California, bringing with them their beautiful French customs and a knowledge of things long developed, by generations of costly experience, their love of hard work, their frugality, their delight in innocent pastimes and their intense patriotism, founded in a natural devotion to their fatherland but culminating in the most loyal allegiance to the land of their adoption.

Eugene P. Thome is a native of Gap, in the Hautes Alps, and the son of Eugene P. and Sophia (Eyraud) Thome, substantial farmer folk of that section, with such good connections that one of Mr. Thome's cousins is Father Daumas, the well-known priest of Los Banos; and on his father's farm he was reared, receiving what would always be considered there a good education. Desiring some kind of a handicraft, however, he did not follow the occupation of his father but learned the wagon-maker's trade at Gap.

When he approached manhood and became liable for military service, Mr. Thome not only responded to the call of the Government, as one would necessarily have to do, but he very cheerfully shouldered his rifle and stepped into the ranks. He joined the One Hundred Fortieth Regiment of Infantry, and later enlisted with the Eleventh Hussars; and after having fully satisfied both the French authorities and his conscience, he received his honorable discharge and was mustered out as a sergeant.

In 1890, having crossed the ocean to America, he first came to California, and for a time he was busy at sheepraising and later at carpentering. But he soon began to follow viticulture, and after a while it became evident that that would be his forte. He secured a vineyard just east of Fresno, and there he worked for years.

Since selling that property he has had charge of a most desirable ranch known as the Park Vineyard on Ventura Avenue; and there he has been raising with remarkable success both grapes and alfalfa. Working only according to the most approved methods, as handed down by valuable tradition corrected and fortified by the last word of science, Mr. Thome could hardly have failed to attain in time his enviable position of leadership.

Mr. Thome has become a member of the Foresters; he is also a member of the Druids, and where he is past officer and past district deputy. As a man a citizen, a member of local society, and a business man, Mr. Thome is representative and influential, and enjoys the honors and benefits that accompany such a desirable character and reputation.



Pete. Gavrilovich

PETER KOVACEVICH.—A young man of sterling worth, foresightedness and exceptional enterprise, who has become a successful and prominent broker and buyer of green and dried fruits, planning to make a specialty of figs and table grapes for eastern shipments, is Peter Kovacevich with offices at 108 Trust Company's Building, Fresno.

He is a native of Stari Grad, Dalmatia, Jugoslavia, born May 8, 1893, and attended public school in his native country. In his seventeenth year he came to California—in 1910—and joined his father, four brothers and two sisters in Fresno County. For three years he worked for salary for his older brother John Kovacevich, Jr., then, for a year he acted as his foreman, all the while gathering knowledge and experience sure to be of great service to him later.

In 1915 he started in business for himself, commencing to buy figs; the next year he dealt in figs, also in other fruits; but in 1917 and 1918 he limited himself to figs, and bought on a large scale, purchasing 150 tons of figs. In 1919 he bought about 200 tons of figs and 2,000 tons of Malaga grapes for eastern markets as table fruit. The successful progress he made speaks for itself. While the great war was going on he bought liberally of Liberty Bonds and assisted personally and otherwise to his utmost in Red Cross work. As an able-bodied American, he was duly registered in the army draft—a fact that will always be a source of pride to him, for he was ready to respond if Uncle Sam had need of him; but he was not called and so had no chance to make the supreme sacrifice. During the war, he was very attentive to local Jugoslavic affairs, having contributed liberally to the national fund, and the old country policies of the Jugoslavic question on the Balkan Peninsula.

V. KIRKORIAN.—People living in a country of persecution lose their initiative and become indifferent or discouraged, and many a man who under other environment might have been a credit to himself and his family, is unable to contribute anything to the growth and progress of his community. Given an abiding-place in a world where he may feel that what he accumulates is his own, then the man in him is aroused, and he finds, like Mr. Kirkorian, an incentive for the development of his faculties and the devotion of his energies to a worthy end. Mr. Kirkorian is a very enterprising Armenian, who is fast coming to the front in Fresno. He owns the Boston Grocery Store, the brick mill where "Bolghor" is made, and a fifty-acre ranch four miles east of Fresno.

Bolghor is the ancient Armenian cereal, and is fast coming into favor in this country. Mr. Kirkorian started its manufacture a few years ago, and the business prospered to such an extent that in 1917 he built a brick establishment eighty-five by ninety-five feet in size, and this he uses exclusively in its manufacture. He uses only Sonora wheat of the best quality, and while the process of manufacture is largely secret it may be said that the wheat undergoes thorough fanning, screening and a system of sterilization by means of boiling and drying before it is pearled and ground. There are four grades: Pearled wheat, and Numbers One, Two and Three Bolghor. His product is sent to all quarters of the United States, and he is building up a great industry. He has now the largest mill and business of its kind in the country. The capacity is two tons of wheat per day, but the exigencies of war limited him to seventy-five tons per year. Before the war he used as high as 125 tons per year. The plant is certain to be one of the substantial concerns of Fresno.

Mr. Kirkorian was born at Moush, Armenia, Turkey, September 7, 1869. He was reared, baptized and confirmed in the Armenian Church. His father was a farmer, a grain and tobacco grower. His name was Mgerdich Kirkorian, and he died when his son was twelve years of age. The mother was Sanam Ohornesian, who died in Turkey after her son had come to America, twenty-three years ago. He is the only one of the family now living.

Mr. Kirkorian learned farming on his father's farm in Turkey. He entered the Armenian mission school at Bitlis, Turkey, a Congregational institution, and there learned English, in addition to the Armenian and Turkish languages, which he also learned there. In 1892 he came to America, landing in New York. He found employment in factories in New Britain, Conn., and remained here for twelve years. During this time he married Miss Doshgohe Garabedian, who was educated in the girls' mission school at Bitlis, and they are the parents of seven children: Ardroni, nicknamed "Arizona," works on the ranch; Annie assists her father in the store. These two were born in Connecticut. Then there are Ralph, Julia, Edward, Grace and Berger, born in California, who are in school. The family came to California in 1902, and settled in Fresno County. For one year Mr. Kirkorian was employed in doing farm work, and then came to Fresno and began his business career, first with a meat market. Afterwards he bought a fruit store, and finally entered into the manufacture of Bolghor. In this he uses electric power, furnished by the San Joaquin Light & Power Corporation. The plant has stone burrs, and a set of grinders, polishers and sifters.

In politics Mr. Kirkorian is a Democrat. He is a progressive, active man, interested in all the things that make for growth in character and environment, and with his family, he occupies an important place in the community.

PETER M. PETERSEN.—Denmark has given to the United States many of her best citizens, men who have become very successful and influential in the various sections in which they have located. California has received her share of these thrifty men among whom particular mention is made of Peter M. Petersen, proprietor of the Capital Creamery Company, located at 2030 Fresno Street, Fresno, Cal. He was born in Denmark in the year 1877, and there he received a thorough education in the common and high schools of his community. His education was supplemented by a special course in farming and dairying, which he pursued in a college located at Copenhagen. For three years he was assistant professor in a dairy school located in Jutland, Denmark. When but a boy of nine years he began helping his father in the making of cheese and butter and he readily acquired a knowledge of the business. This practical experience, together with his schooling, was of great assistance to the young man and in his twentieth year he was made the manager of a Farmers Cooperative Creamery.

In 1903 Mr. Petersen's thoughts began to turn westward, no doubt due to the many glowing accounts he had heard and read concerning the many advantages the United States offered to young men of energy and ambition, particularly in the Pacific Coast States. Deciding to seek his fortune in California, he came to Stockton, where he obtained a position as stationary engineer. Mr. Petersen having passed an examination as steam engineer before leaving Denmark. Later he moved to Dairyville, Ore., where he was manager of the Star Creamery Company. Afterwards he was located at San Francisco, Cal., where he was employed for a short time in the Golden State Creamery. His next position was with the Cooperative Creamery located at Laton, Fresno County, where he was engaged as a buttermaker. Later he was with the Farmers Cooperative Creamery at Riverdale, Fresno County, after which he located at McFarland, Kern County, where he managed the Farmers Cooperative Creamery for four years. After the termination of this engagement, Mr. Petersen started in business for himself at Stockton, Cal., where he established the Gold Medal Creamery, with a partner. Subsequently he sold his interest to his partner and accepted the position of manager of the Kerman Creamery, located at Kerman, Cal. On October 1, 1915, he arrived in Fresno, where he established the Capital Creamery at 1928 Fresno Street. The first plant was small in size, but through Mr. Petersen's splendid business management and honorable methods his business soon outgrew its initial quarters and the necessity of a larger building became imperative. On October 15, 1916, one year and a few days since he launched

his new business in Fresno, he moved into a new and up-to-date plant at 2030 Fresno Street. This large building is equipped with the latest machinery which makes possible the handling of 2,000 gallons of milk daily, and increases the daily output to 450 pounds of "Capital Creamery Butter," the brand by which his product is known, and which is rapidly increasing in popularity. Mr. Petersen is regarded as one of the best informed men in the creamery business in the San Joaquin Valley and his advice is frequently sought by dairymen from all sections.

Peter M. Petersen was united in marriage in Denmark, January 12, 1907, with Christina Williamsen, who is also a native of Denmark. Two children have blessed their home: Harry Albert and Carl P., both of whom are natives of California. Fraternally, Mr. Petersen is a member of the Danish Brotherhood and the Maccabees. He is a member of the Danish Church. Mr. Petersen is very public-spirited and is regarded as an enthusiastic booster of local enterprises and has often been called upon to help in the advancement of new and worthy projects.

I. E. DAVIS.—A worthy representative of a long-established American family, for generations identified with the East, who has come to associate his life with the development of California, is I. E. Davis, who was born near Marengo, Morrow County, Ohio, on June 21, 1856, the son of John Davis, who was also born in the same vicinity. His grandfather was Samuel Davis, and he removed from New York to Ohio. This journey he made on a raft he had constructed himself, onto which he loaded his family and his household goods; he floated down the Monongahela to the Ohio River to Portsmouth, at which point he took a position as jailer for two years. At the time of the War of 1812, he went up the Scota River by raft, when men pulled it by hand, and then to Columbus, where he ran up to Delaware County and bought a small farm in heavy timber. He hewed a farm out of the wilderness, built a log house, sold it later and bought another farm three miles away. He improved it, and this farm I. E. Davis owned until just before he came away. The grandfather died there. John Davis, who became a prominent Republican, died on the same old place. He had married Annie Mosier, a native of Morrow County, and the daughter of Daniel Mosier, an early settler and a pioneer farmer, who also hewed a farm out of the woods. She died in Ohio, the mother of two children, one of whom, Daniel, is a well-known citizen of Morrow County.

Brought up on a farm, I. E. Davis attended the public schools and when twenty-one began to farm for himself. He tried the home place for a while, and later bought that ranch. He then bought Grandfather Mosier's farm and went in for general farming. He also bought other farms and sold them again. The two he had longest, including the Mosier estate, he disposed of when he decided to come to California.

While in Ohio Mr. Davis married Miss Clara Davis, a native of Illinois, where she was born in Kankakee County; and on account of her health, he sold his farm lands in 1910 and moved to Nunn, Colo. He bought a grocery store and ran the business for a year; but in 1911 he decided to move still farther West and came out to Fresno.

He bought five acres on Olive Avenue and ran it for a year; and then he sold it and bought his present place of twenty acres on Blackstone Avenue five miles out of Fresno. Fourteen acres of his ranch are devoted to the growing of Muscat, Thompson seedless and Sultana grapes, and the balance of the acreage is in figs. He makes a specialty of the Calimyrna, and also raises the Capri figs, caprifying the same. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and of the California Peach Growers, Inc.

Mrs. Davis, who was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, died on November 25, 1918, aged fifty-seven years, widely esteemed and beloved. Mr. Davis is a loyal Republican and a member of the Knights of Pythias, Lodge No. 216, Marengo, Ohio, wherein he has been identified thirty years.

NILS A. ANDERSON.—A successful viticulturist, who has contributed to the upbuilding of the community and county, is Nils A. Anderson, a fine man personally, and having an equally attractive family. He was born in Umeo, Westerbottenland, Sweden, on November 19, 1871, the son of Anders Dalroth, who served his time, like a good patriot, in the Swedish army. Nils A. took the name of Anderson, grew up on a farm, and attended the public schools; and when his father died, during the lad's fourteenth year, he continued farming for a year, next worked in a saw-mill, and then was on a railroad until he was twenty-one.

Arriving at maturity, Nils went with a regiment of infantry into the Swedish army, and after that put to sea in a Norwegian steam vessel, and for four years engaged in the coast trade. Twice he was wrecked, but each time survived. The first time the vessel was run down by a Holland steamer and sank in less than ten minutes, so that two were drowned; and Nils saved himself by swimming to the Holland boat. The second time, the boat struck a reef, but the vessel was eventually saved. After eighteen months more of service, following the second wreck, Mr. Anderson quit the sea and ran an engine in a brewery. In 1901, he went to Seattle, and on the second of May, of that year, to Tacoma, where he became engineer for a lumber company, and for nine years, off and on, followed that line of work. At other times, also, he worked at logging contracts.

In the Spring of 1910, Mr. Anderson returned for a four months' visit to his old home in Sweden; and coming back in January, 1911, on the *Empress of Ireland* (which was sunk a few years later at the mouth of the St. Lawrence River), he located at Vinland, in Fresno County, where he bought forty acres of improved ranch land, set out with Thompson seedless grapes and an orchard of peaches, which he kept up until 1917, when he sold out. Then he bought his present place of seventeen and a half acres on Madera Avenue, which has a vineyard of Thompson seedless and a good orchard. He built a comfortable residence there, and added other improvements, and became both a member and a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company and a member of the Peach Growers, Inc.

At Luleo, in Sweden, Mr. Anderson was married to Miss Caroline Wilhelmina Peterson, the daughter of Peter and Caroline Peterson, farmers at Umeo.

Mr. Anderson, who is loyal to the principles of the Republican party, is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Vinland, where his wife is a leader in the Ladies' Aid Society. The worthy couple have three children, Roy, who is in the high school at Kerman; and Elsie and Ebba.

GEORGE BAZTERRA.—If anyone hereabouts has a right to be proud of his many friends it is George Bazterra, proprietor of Hotel Bascongado, and a resident of California for over twenty-five years. He was born near Abaurrea, Acto, Spain, on November 28, 1875, the son of Jean Bazterra, a farmer, and his good wife Josephine, and was one of a family of nine children. In January, 1891, he came with his father to the Pacific Coast; but the latter remained only four or five years, and then returned to Spain. Both parents are now dead; and the only other member of the family in California is George's sister, Eugenia, now Mrs. Frank Espitalier of Fresno.

Reared in Spain, where he attended the public school until he was fourteen years of age, George Bazterra came to the Coast as stated, crossing the ocean in 1890, sailing from Bordeaux to New Orleans and then coming to Los Angeles, where the Bazterra family arrived on January 6, 1891. He went to work on the San Joaquin ranch at fifteen dollars a month, and continued there for a couple of years. Then he entered the service of ranchers at Chino and Spadra; but after working four years for a man in the latter place, his employer failed and he lost the wages long due him. He was young, healthy and cheerful, however, and so, with as much heartening philosophy as he could summon, he started anew.



Fred Skelton

In 1898 Mr. Bazterra came to Fresno County and accepted a position with Miller & Lux, at Firebaugh, driving big teams in the grain fields for them for a couple of years. He was also at Kearney Rock, and then for another year in Firebaugh, after which he worked for M. Theo. Kearney at Kearney Park for over one year.

When he returned to Fresno, Mr. Bazterra became the proprietor of Hotel Bascongado, but soon after he bought a band of sheep at Los Banos, and ran them on leased land. After he sold out and left the sheep business, in which he had good success, he devoted himself solely to his hotel interests.

Mr. Bazterra was married to Mary Helena Ansolabehere, a French woman born in Hautes-Pyrénées, and together they have enjoyed the social life of the community, and particularly of the circles of the Druids and the Eagles. Their home is the center of a warm hospitality, which is rewarded by the genuine goodwill of all who have the good fortune to know them.

FRED NELSON.—A man of great business acumen and financial ability, Fred Nelson is representative of the class of citizens who have made up the rank and file of Fresno's march toward prosperity, and who have reaped the benefits of their earlier struggles and have at the same time built up and developed the resources of the county. Born near Utica, N. Y., August 8, 1866, Mr. Nelson is the son of John and Christine (Steck) Nelson, both natives of Denmark, where the father was a brick and stone mason. They emigrated to America and in 1869 the family moved to Iowa, settling at St. Ansgar, Mitchell County. From there they moved up to Minnesota and settled on a farm at Clitherall, Otter Tail County, in 1877, and Fred attended the district schools of Iowa as well as Minnesota, and as a young man he helped turn the virgin sod of Minnesota.

When nineteen years old Mr. Nelson came to California; a brother, Charles Nelson, the jeweler at Fowler, had preceded him the year before and had settled at Oleander, Fresno County. After his arrival here Mr. Nelson began working on ranches and then ranched for himself, first renting the D. W. Parkhurst vineyard and orchard of 440 acres, at Fowler, and ran it for four years, from 1891 to 1896. His marriage occurred in the latter year, to Miss Mattie Donahoo, a native of Nevada, and he then began his upward climb. That year he purchased a ten-acre piece of land from the Parkhurst ranch which was improved with a living-house and there the young couple started housekeeping.

Mr. Nelson ran a packing plant in conjunction with his ranching operations on the Parkhurst ranch, and packed and shipped raisins, peaches and pears, making him one of the pioneer fruit packers in the county. Meeting with success in this, he bought the old Kutner warehouse at Fowler, and together with Paul H. Hutchinson he conducted the Fowler Fruit Company, packers and shippers of dried fruits and raisins. This enterprise the partners operated successfully until some years after the California Associated Raisin Company was organized, when Mr. Nelson became a stockholder in that company. He now has stock in both that organization and in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and is serving as a trustee in the latter. In 1919 he sold out his packing house at Fowler to the California Peach Growers, Inc., and his many other business interests leave him small time for individual operations.

In 1912 Mr. Nelson organized the Fowler National Bank and became a director in the concern, and in 1915 the bank bought out the interests of the First National Bank of Fowler; they then consolidated the two, under the name of the First National Bank of Fowler and Mr. Nelson was made president of the new organization, which office he still holds. In 1919 he helped organize the Growers National Bank of Fresno and became its vice-president.

During their many years of residence in Fowler, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson took an active part in the growth of that town. Mr. Nelson built several

residences and a brick business block, and was the main factor in bringing about the incorporation of Fowler, which occurred in 1905, and was elected its first Mayor, serving a four years' term. He helped to build the beautiful brick United Presbyterian Church there, at a cost of \$30,000, of which he and his wife are members, and he served on the building committee during the time of its erection. While in the packing business, in 1915, Mr. Nelson emphasized his farsightedness in business by a coup which he executed during the low price of raisins that season; he began buying and secured a "corner" on raisins, with the result that the price advanced from two and one-half cents to five cents per pound, and he made a profit for himself and also doubled the price to the producers.

In 1916 Mr. Nelson and his wife became residents of Fresno, and built a fine cement and stucco bungalow there for their home, at 619 North Van Ness Avenue. In the spring of 1919 Mr. Nelson formed a company and bought the James Madison ranch between Reedley and Dinuba, consisting of 520 acres and known as the "Sun Maid Ranch"; they paid a purchase price of \$250,000 for the property, and in ninety days sold it for \$375,000. Among other property Mr. Nelson owns a 150-acre peach orchard at Biola; he also owns a twenty-five acre Thompson seedless vineyard two miles west of Fresno, and is otherwise interested in Fresno County realty.

In fraternal circles Mr. Nelson has taken a prominent part; he is a member of the Fresno lodge of Elks; and is a charter member of the I. O. O. F. at Fowler, in which order he is a Past Noble Grand, and served as president of the Odd Fellows Hall Association which built the Odd Fellows' Block in Fowler. Politically, he has done much to help advance the civic affairs of his district, and has served on the County Central Committee in the ranks of the Progressive Republican Party.

OLOF PEARSON.—A Swedish-American gentleman who, having emigrated to America, is participating in the developing and upbuilding of the new commonwealth of California, is Olof Pearson, head of the firm of Pearson & Rosander, at Kingsburg. He was born at Carlshamn, Sweden, a city of seven thousand population, on the Baltic Sea, the son of Per Olson, a well-to-do farmer and landholder, who died when Olof was five years of age; he had married Hannah Johnson, and she passed away when the child was only three. He was thus left orphaned, with two sisters, both now married and in Sweden.

When the father died, the children were taken into the home of an aunt, a sister of Olof's mother, Cecilia Degerlund, whose husband conducted a shoemaker's shop in the same city, Olof served an apprenticeship with him for five years, and became a competent shoemaker. At the same time, he attended the common schools. He was brought up in the Lutheran Church, and confirmed at the age of fourteen.

At nineteen, Mr. Pearson came to America, sailing from Carlshamn, Sweden, on July 18, 1886, on the steamship Wisconsin of the Guion line, and landed at New York on August 22, 1886, after which he went to Minden, in Kearney County, Nebr., where he happened to have some acquaintances in the county seat. He worked at his trade for the first five or six months, and did not like it, for the great out-doors appealed to him more; so he engaged with the B. & M. in Nebraska for a short time, and then became a clerk in the general merchandise store at Minden. He remained in Kearney County, Nebr., for twenty-six years, mastering American ways, founding his own fortune and making many friends.

He was married at Keene, in that state on August 3, 1892, to Miss Mary Anderson, daughter of Charles F. Anderson. Mr. and Mrs. Pearson are the parents of three children: Pearl is now Mrs. Paul Paulson, and is employed in her father's store, while she resides at Kingsburg; Chester, who is also a clerk in that well-known establishment, was in the United States Army at

Portland, Ore.; and Carl is in the United States Navy, which he joined in March, 1918, on the United States steamship "Matsonia."

In 1913 Mr. Pearson made his first visit to Patterson, Stanislaus County, having some land there; but after he had looked over the territory, he disposed of his holding and then came down to Fresno County, which appealed to him more. In the autumn he brought his family out to Kingsburg; and in the spring of 1914 he started in business, opening a general merchandise stock. After a year and a half, he sold out and went to Selma, where he entered the employ of S. H. Gill & Co., and took charge of the shoe department and gents' furnishings; and his successful management of that branch of the business added materially to the volume of trade and the number of friendly patrons of the house.

On March 5, 1919, Mr. Pearson bought out the business of Messrs. Brolin & Rosman, dealers in general merchandise, at Kingsburg, and at the same time took in R. A. Rosander as a partner. His wide experience and his equally fortunate knowledge of human nature and American commercial affairs, have enabled Mr. Pearson to make this concern one of the commercial bulwarks of Kingsburg. He also owns 160 acres in Furness County, Nebr.

Mr. and Mrs. Pearson and family are members of the Free Mission Church at Kingsburg, and for two years Mr. Pearson has been superintendent of the Sunday School. In national politics he is a Republican; but his Republicanism stands first, last and all the time for the best of America for Americans, above party lines, and for the triumph of Prohibition and the outlawing of the liquor traffic.

JACK TOCCALINI.—Among the oldest residents of Arizona Colony Fresno County, is the well-known viticulturist and horticulturist, Jack Toccalini, a native of Italy, born at Pavia, Lombardia, April 2, 1855. He was reared on a farm in his native land and received a good public school education, engaging in farming after reaching his majority. On August 14, 1883, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Sala, who was also a native of Pavia.

Believing that America offered better opportunities for ambitious and enterprising young men, Mr. Toccalini decided to seek his fortune in the Golden State; so, in 1885, he bid his family and native land adieu and sailed for the New World, eventually reaching Napa County, Cal., where he secured employment on ranches and vineyards. Afterwards he worked in the quick-silver mines in Pope Valley, and later on was employed by Tolls Brothers, in their sawmill in Placer County, where he remained for nine seasons. During these years however he spent the winters in Fresno County, where he was employed on vineyards and orchards.

In 1893, Mr. Toccalini made a trip back to Italy to visit his family and look after his farm interests, which his wife had ably managed during his long absence. After spending twenty-two months in his native land, he returned to California, and to the sawmill where he had previously worked, remaining there three years; but, as before, he spent his winters in Fresno County. After working one year in the Shaver mill, he leased his present place of twenty acres in Arizona Colony, in 1898; and three years later, having saved enough money, he purchased the ranch and devoted the place to raising peaches and raisins. In December, 1900, his wife and two children joined him on his California ranch, which was indeed a happy reunion. The family now consists of five children: John, a viticulturist in the Arizona Colony; Henrietta, now Mrs. Buscaglia, residing at Muscatel; Anna, Mrs. Pescarmona, of Merced; and Jennie and Rose, at home with their parents.

In 1918, Mr. Toccalini sold his ranch at a good profit, but intends to buy another place when a good opportunity presents itself. He is a member of both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.. Politically, he is a strong Republican.

JOHN AND LOUIS CUCUK.—John and Louis Cucuk are natives of Servia. John was born on June 27, 1880, and Louis on January 22, 1889. They are relatives, John being an uncle of Louis. Nature endowed these men with an abundance of health, and they have applied themselves in such a manner as to win success by their efforts.

John Cucuk came to Fresno County in 1903, Louis following a year or two later. After their arrival, they went to work with a will, finding employment in raisin vineyards and learning every phase of the raisin industry thoroughly. They were frugal and saving, steady and industrious, and in 1914 they had between them enough to make the initial payment on a forty-acre raisin and fig ranch on North Avenue, in the Lone Star section, about nine miles southeast of Fresno. They have brought this place up to a high state of productivity. Ten acres of figs yielded a harvest worth \$9,000 in 1918, and a larger return is looked for year by year. In the summer of 1918 their barn was burned, entailing a loss of \$1,000, but they put up a better one than they lost, and also built a new tank house, garage and tray shed, spending about \$3,500 in buildings. A very substantial country residence of solid brick adorns their ranch, and all of their buildings are in keeping with their habits of thorough and painstaking industry. So much has fortune favored them that they are now about out of debt. Their success is due to good business management and hard work. Meanwhile they have been ready to contribute to the relief of need wherever found, and have not forgotten to support the Government in the hour of trial. They are interested in the California Associated Raisin Company, and whatever makes for progress in the county finds a ready response from them.

JOHN I. PIMENTEL.—Among the successful men of Fresno who, by wise management and hard work have reached their enviable position of prosperity and influence, must be mentioned John I. Pimentel, proprietor of the Sunset Grocery at 3075 Tulare Avenue, Fresno, who was born in the balmy Azores on June 17, 1863, the son of John Pimentel, the pioneer who came to the Pacific Coast in the good old days when folks traveled by the long way around Cape Horn. He was for eight years mining in the Golden State and whaling on the Pacific Ocean; and then he returned to his native land.

In 1879, when he was sixteen years of age, the son John I. came to America, and settled in Boston, where for six years he was a book binder. Then he went to New Bedford and bought thirty acres of land near South Dartmouth, on which he raised fruit and garden truck. At the end of two years, he returned to Boston and for a year was porter in Foote & French's Bank on State Street.

While in Boston, Mr. Pimentel met T. C. Severance, and in 1887 he traveled to California and all over this state with him as his valet, remaining in his service for two years. Then, before the electric lines were built, he drove a horse car in Los Angeles for three years; after which he came to Fresno, in 1881, and was for a time employed by his brother.

He next took up a homestead of 160 acres one mile east of Friant (formerly called Polasky), in Fresno County, and there raised turkeys, having some 2,500 of them; when turkeys sold for only seven cents a pound. Taking a trip back to Boston, he worked for the Oriental Coffee Company for a season; but getting sick, he decided to return to California and has since lived in the Golden State.

At first he rented thirty acres west of Fresno and went in for alfalfa raising; but, as a ton of the product commanded only four dollars in Fresno, he gave up the undertaking and entered the employ of Alexander and Goodman, at the corner of Mariposa and Eye Streets, and there, for sixteen and a half years, he had the very responsible position of confidential clerk in their clothing store.



D. Bidegaray



Granita Bidegaray

In 1910, Mr. Pimentel opened the Sunset Grocery on the east side of Tulare Avenue, near First, and was one of the first men to buy land and build in this district. He erected a seven-room house and grocery store, and he has steadily prospered. Mr. Pimentel is now a large owner of real estate in Fresno, and since he does not owe anybody a dollar, all of his property is free and clear.

Among Mr. Pimentel's choice holdings may be mentioned the following: three houses on Rasina Street; four houses on Tulare Avenue; one house on Effie Street; one house on E Street; one house on Mary Street; four lots on Washington Avenue; two lots on O Street; and one house on Belmont Avenue. He bought the corner of First and Tulare Streets and built there a two-story business block which he rents.

Some years ago Mr. Pimentel married Maria Brazil of the Azores, by whom he has had three children: George B., and Lena, both attending Fresno high school; and Daniel.

Mr. Pimentel is a charter member of the Eagles; and is also a member of the I. D. E. S., the U. P. E. C., and the Owls. He was chairman of the Portuguese Society on the Liberty Loan Drive and did good work among his fellow-countrymen. He was selected a member ex-officio of the committee to represent Portugal for the big celebration of Britain Day, held in Fresno on December 7 and 8, 1918. He has been a notary public in Fresno for the past twenty years.

Public-spirited, progressive, a man who has given his children every advantage in education within his power, Mr. Pimentel is today one of the really representative citizens in his adopted county, Fresno.

DOMINGO BIDEGARAY.—Among the most hospitable and pleasant places in Fresno County, is the ranch home of Mr. and Mrs. Domingo Bidegaray who tender the most cordial welcome to the fortunate wayfarer that happens to come by their ranch. Mr. Bidegaray was born at Esterencuty, St. Jean Pied de Port, Basses Pyrenees, France, June 9, 1870, being the oldest of four children born to Pierre and Gracian (Granada) Bidegaray. The mother of the family died in 1878 when Domingo was only four years of age. Pierre Bidegaray raised the family while following general agricultural pursuits and after the children had come to California, he also made the journey remaining four years with them, but the scenes of his childhood beckoned too strongly to him so he returned to his old home, where he is spending his last days surrounded by his old friends and scenes so dear to him.

Domingo, from a youth, helped his father on the farm and at the same time attended the local school as much as possible. Later he worked out for others to render his father still more assistance. He worked for a Mr. Etchegoin, who had a brother in Fresno County, and he naturally heard the favorable reports sent back to France and so became greatly interested which resulted in his determination to also try his fortune on the Pacific Coast. Arriving in Fresno in October, 1890, he found employment with William Etchegoin, a sheep-man on the West Side and for a year worked within sight of his present ranch. He continued working for others and the wages due him had accumulated but on account of the dry and hard years of 1897-98 many stockmen failed and he lost his wages. He continued working, this time with a determination that as soon as he had enough money he would engage in business for himself and not take chances on others' success or failure, for he might as well win or lose on his own account. It will be seen that there was no such word as fail in Domingo Bidegaray's vocabulary.

In 1900, with a partner, he bought a flock of sheep and four years later bought his partner's interest, continuing the business, ranging his stock on the plains and in the mountains. Some years he had as many as 10,000 head and he met with the most satisfactory success. In 1910 he located his present ranch as a homestead of 160 acres about eight miles north of Huron. He has made improvements on the place with comfortable residence and substantial

barns and other buildings. He purchased land adjoining and now owns 960 acres, being also engaged in raising grain, though stock-raising is his specialty. He is a thorough farmer and insists on keeping everything about the ranch in the best of shape so it is a satisfaction to see the order that prevails on his ranch. Being well posted and experienced in the sheep-raising industry, in 1907, Mr. Bidegaray was appointed, by the Secretary of Agriculture as Federal Sheep Inspector, a position he filled with his customary zeal and ardor, traveling all over the San Joaquin Valley, giving it his time and best effort until 1917, when he resigned on account of the pressure of his other affairs. He is one of the original stockholders of the Union National Bank of Fresno, and is also one of the stockholders of the Fresno Savings Bank.

In Fresno, January 3, 1910, occurred the marriage of Domingo Bidegaray with Miss Juanita Eznoz, a native of Navarra, Spain, the daughter of Jose and Romona (Larrea) Eznoz, farmer folk in that country. Juanita Eznoz came to Fresno in 1906, where she met Mr. Bidegaray, the acquaintance resulting in their marriage. They have three children, Micaela, Juanita and Joaquina, all attending St. John's Academy in Fresno. Mr. and Mrs. Bidegaray are conscientious and consistent Christians and try to do good whenever the opportunity arises. Of social dispositions, they are liberal with their hospitality and are ready and willing to help deserving people, as well as movements for the general good of the community. In national politics, Mr. Bidegaray is a Republican.

O. A. OLSEN.—A well-posted viticulturist, now in independent circumstances, who is enjoying the rewards of hard labor and enterprise of such a nature that no one could possibly envy him his success, is O. A. Olsen. He was born at Flekkefjord, Norway, on May 1, 1879, the son of Ole Tønneson, a farmer having a farm and a fisherman who had his own vessel, the catching of fish being his chief industry. He used to make trips to the north coast of Norway and bring back his catch; and he was locally famous for his experience and prowess. He lived to a good old age, and died in the land of his birth. His wife was Tobnia Larsen before her marriage. When she died, she was the mother of seven children, among whom three, all sons, are now living: Thomas is in Fortuna, and Louis is in Loleta, Cal., the owner of the Loleta Lumber Yard; while O. A. Olsen lives on his ranch twelve miles east of Fresno.

After finishing the courses at the public schools, the lad assisted his father until he was seventeen, and then he sailed from Norway for the United States.

In 1896, Mr. Olsen reached Fortuna, Humboldt County, and soon after, at Newburg, entered the employ of the Eel River Valley Lumber Company. Two months later he went to Scotia and began grading for the P. E. I. Co., after which he was a sawyer, running the big band saw. At the end of a year he resigned and went to Siskiyou County, and there, at La Moyne, he was sawyer for the La Moyne Lumber Company for another year. Typhoid fever drove him back to Fortuna, and in the spring of 1904 he came to Fresno County, where he entered on a service of two years as sawyer for the Sanger Lumber Company. Then he went to Loyalton, Sierra County, to work as sawyer for the Roberts Lumber Company and he continued with them for five years, or until they ran out of logs. He next shifted to the Marsh Lumber Company to perform the same service, and left them at the end of two years, only because that company also ran out of timber. Two years of hard, expert work as sawyer for the Davis Lumber Company completed a service as sawyer of eleven years, and after one more year in the same capacity, with the Sugar Pine Lumber Company at Madera, he returned to Sanger to quit lumbering and take up the new field of farming.

For the last ten years Mr. Olsen has been engaged in viticulture, and gradually he has built up an enviable reputation for leadership in the most up-to-date methods. He bought twenty acres of vineyard near Sanger, ran

it awhile, and then sold it at a good profit. He next bought forty acres of raw land on McCall and Ventura Avenues, improved the same and set out a vineyard; and two years later he sold it at a good profit. Once again he bought a vineyard, this time of thirty acres, near Sanger, for which he paid \$6,500, kept it three years, and sold it at a fair profit. Then he bought ten acres near Sanger which he sold to his father-in-law in 1915, and associating himself with the Alexander Land Company of Fresno, he engaged in real estate for a year. About the same time he bought forty acres near Sanger, which he sold in two months at a good profit.

In the spring of 1916, he bought eighty acres near Sanger for \$20,000, located on it, set out forty acres to vines, and planted the other forty to alfalfa, and in January, 1918, sold it at a big profit. He had taken off two crops worth \$10,000, and he received \$32,000 for the land. Before this he had bought his present place of twenty-six acres on Ventura Avenue, where he made his home, and also thirty-seven acres across the road, which he planted to grain. Well-posted on land values, Mr. Olsen knows when the price is right and how both to safeguard himself and to do justice by the purchaser; and the result is that whoever does business with this enterprising rancher never fails to be satisfied. One of the original members of the California Associated Raisin Company, he was long correspondent and signed up every member in his section, besides securing outside district support; and he is also an active member of the California Peach Growers Association, Inc.

At Sanger, Mr. Olsen was married to Miss Sabina Garbick, a native of Galicia, Austria, who came here with her parents when she was a girl. Three children have blessed this happy union: Alfred Sigmund; Alice Sabina, and Herman Thomas. The family attends the Methodist Church at Sanger, and Mr. Olsen is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Red Men.

While at Eureka, in 1901, Mr. Olsen was made a citizen of the United States. He has served his fellow citizens as trustee of the Granville School District.

G. B. GARBARINO.—A resident of California for over forty years, and numbered among the old and prosperous settlers of Fresno County, G. B. Garbarino has contributed his share to the development and improvement of the lands of the county. He is a native of Italy, born in Genoa, December 27, 1855, and when a babe only six days of age was left an orphan. Mr. Garbarino was reared to young manhood by his uncle Peter Garbarino, and remained on his uncle's farm until he reached his majority, when, being the only child, he came into possession of the estate left by his father.

In May, 1877, Mr. Garbarino left his native land for America, arriving in the Golden State in June of the same year. For a while he worked as a gardener in San Francisco, after which he engaged in mining in Mariposa County, and later followed lumbering. In 1882, he came to Fresno County, where he purchased a ranch, near Calloway, from Thomas Hughes. Here he followed gardening, but later on he set out the ranch to vines; he has retained this property ever since. For a number of years he owned and operated a ranch on the Kings River. Mr. Garbarino was the first man in Fresno County to irrigate crops by pumping water from a well. He installed a chain pump which he operated by horse-power, and in this manner he was enabled to raise enough water to irrigate his crop of vegetables.

It was in 1902 that Mr. Garbarino purchased his present place of twenty-five acres, situated between Thorne and Palm Avenues, and the following year he located there. He leveled and improved the place, engaged in gardening, and sold the products of his well-kept place in Fresno. The business finally grew to such an extent that it required five wagons to deliver the vegetables to his many patrons in the city. He has installed a modern pumping plant and also built a large and comfortable residence on his ranch. With his son-in-law, Fred Maglio, Mr. Garbarino has secured the contract for the

Fresno New Scavenger, and for this business owns and operates four auto trucks.

G. B. Garbarino has been married three times, the first time to Serephina Garbarino, the ceremony being solemnized in Italy. She passed away, leaving one child, Joe, who died at the age of seven years and seven months. His second marriage occurred at Coulterville, Cal., when he was united with Mary Garbarino, who afterwards died on the Calloway ranch, leaving two children: Annie, who is now Mrs. Allen; and Aurelia, Mrs. Maglio, both of whom reside in Fresno. In 1901, Mr. Garbarino took a trip to Italy, and upon his return to California was united in marriage with Mrs. Ida Garbarino, a native of Italy. She passed away in August, 1911, leaving five children: Blanche, Joe, John, Ernest, and Eva. The last-named dying when seven months old. By a former marriage Mrs. Ida Garbarino was the mother of one child, Mary, who is now the wife of Jerry Lombardi.

Mr. Garbarino was made a citizen of the United States of America over thirty years ago, having received his naturalization papers at Fresno. In political matters Mr. Garbarino supports the principles of the Republican party.

JOHN HILTON BALFE.—The resident superintendent of the famous "Margherita Vineyard," located on Ventura Avenue, five miles east of Fresno is John H. Balfe a native of the Empire State, born January 16, 1898, at Newburgh, N. Y., a son of Frederick C. and Bertha (Hilton) Balfe. His father, F. C. Balfe, is a well known capitalist of the state of New York and is treasurer of the Newburgh Savings Bank and is financially interested in the Newburgh Shipyards Incorporated, of Newburgh, N. Y., a large and important industry. Both the Balfe and Hilton families are prominent in the financial and social circles of the state of New York and are favorably known in the nation's metropolis. Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Balfe are the parents of three children: Harriet; John H., the subject of this review; and Frederick C. Jr.

John Hilton Balfe, received his early education in the public schools of Newburgh, afterwards going to Blair Academy, Blairstown, N. J., where he was preparing himself to enter Cornell University, planning to pursue the agricultural course, but was obliged to abandon his plans on account of eye trouble. He has always had a strong liking for the great "out-of-doors" life and during the summer after he left Blair Academy, he worked on the Borden Home Farm, in Orange County, N. Y. The Borden's were the first people in the United States to successfully manufacture evaporated milk and put it up in cans, their original farm being located near Newburgh, N. Y. On this famous farm Mr. Balfe learned dairying and the care of milch cows. Being strongly inclined to engage in agricultural pursuits, it was but natural that California, with its wonderful and diversified opportunities for such work, would attract the attention of Mr. Balfe. He arrived in the Golden State in 1917, and became the resident superintendent of the great "Margherita Vineyard" which is owned by the East Side Development Company, a California corporation, of which his father, F. C. Balfe, is a large stockholder and Charles Teague, of Fresno, is the president. This vineyard was originally owned and developed by the late E. B. Rogers, who planted it to wine grapes; the varieties include the zinfandel, mission, feherzagos, oheoni, sultana, and the buchi. The property contains a large winery with ample machinery for the distillation of grape brandy. Most of the 1918 crop of grapes was sent to Fresno, where it found a ready sale as "table grapes." The shipping facilities of the "Margherita Vineyard" are most excellent as the Southern Pacific Railroad and the Fresno Traction Company both run near the property and have switches built into the vineyard thus making it possible to load and ship the grapes directly from the vineyard. This splendid property is abundantly sub-irrigated and the soil is very fertile, the vineyard being regarded the most valuable tract of land, devoted to viticulture in Fresno County. Palm Avenue, a very picturesque drive, bounds the property on the east. It is one



J. M. Roessler.



Mrs F M Ressler

mile in length and is bordered by gigantic Washington palms, many of the driveways being skirted by olive trees of unusual size.

Through the energetic and intelligent management of Mr. Balfe, the vineyard is kept up to a high state of development. Mr. Balfe is managing the famous "Margherita Vineyard" with great satisfaction to the company and with profit to the stockholders. He is more enthusiastic over farming and the out-of-door life since coming to California and is making good in his chosen work of agriculture, horticulture and viticulture and his friends predict for him a very successful business career. An uncle of his, Harry Balfe, is the head of the Austin Nichols Company, of New York City, the largest wholesale grocery in the world; another uncle, Thomas F. Balfe, of New York City, is a stockholder and president of the Newburgh Savings Bank.

FRED M. ROESSLER.—A man who has given his best efforts toward the improving and building-up of his section of Fresno County is Fred M. Roessler, who has been a resident of California since 1874. He was born in St. Martin, Rheinisch Bavaria, Germany, August 24, 1857, his father George Roessler, being a viticulturist on the Rhine, so that while attending school as a boy Fred M. assisted in the vineyard on Wednesday and Saturday afternoons, as is the custom in that country, learning the care of the vineyard and the method of pruning the vines under his father's direction. After he had completed the grammar school he entered the high school at Edenkoben, continuing his studies until just before graduation.

His desire to see the world had become so strong that he left home and shipped aboard a vessel bound for New York City, arriving in 1873. Here he enlisted in the Nautical School Ship "St. Marys," taking a course in navigation, after which he shipped from Boston on the "Lathley Rich," sailing around Cape of Good Hope by way of Australia, Fiji Islands and Japan to China, visiting most of the important ports in the Orient. During the voyage they had many interesting experiences, some of which left an indelible impression on the young lad. At Hong Kong he decided to come to California. Having read of the California grapes he had a longing to see this productive country, so he came on an English boat *Margarite*, with 1,100 coolies aboard, to San Francisco, arriving in July, 1874, not yet seventeen years of age—a stranger in a strange land.

Making his way to Monterey County, he worked on a ranch and learned to drive the big teams in the grain field, as well as to do general farm work. Reading much about Mexico his interest was aroused and in 1878 he went to Guaymas on the ship that carried the first two locomotives from San Francisco to Guaymas for the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad then building from Guaymas to Benson, Ariz. He was employed on the construction of the road until they reached Hermosillo, when he became ill with fever and returned to San Francisco via Carmen Island on a ship that carried a load of salt to San Francisco. In the fall of 1879 he visited his parents and on his return visited Napa and Santa Clara Counties, but found land values too high for him so he came to Fresno County having read of Eggers vineyard and cheap lands. Looking about he met a Mr. Downer, who wanted to sell out so Mr. Roessler purchased his forty acres with improvements for \$1,600. This formed the nucleus of his present large vineyard. He immediately set about to improve it, and as he could, he purchased other lands from time to time until he has 180 acres in one body and improved to wine grapes. In 1892 he began making wine commercially, and in 1893 built his first winery. Later, as his needs required he completed the present large winery with a capacity of 500,000 gallons. He has beautified the place with a park which surrounds his residence, and which is set out with ornamental and shade trees and which is often referred to as one of the show places of the district.

In San Francisco, May 3, 1890, occurred the marriage of F. M. Roessler with Miss Sina Johnson, who was born near Stavanger, Norway, and who came to Fresno in 1888; they have three children living,—Elsie, Mrs. Flynn of San Francisco; George and Alfred are caring for the Roessler vineyards. They also have an adopted son, Ludvig Roessler, who resides in San Francisco.

Mr. Roessler was made a Mason in Salinas Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., is now a member of Fresno Lodge. He is also a member of Fresno Consistory Scottish Rite and Islam Temple A. A. O. N. M. S., in San Francisco, as well as the Fresno Lodge of Elks. Mr. Roessler is very liberal and enterprising and can always be found on the side of development and public improvement. He is a contributor to all worthy projects for the betterment of the condition of the people, and always a supporter of The Fresno Chamber of Commerce. He believes in cooperation and is a stockholder and member of the California Associated Raisin Company. Politically, he performs his civic duties under the standard of the Republican platform.

FRED REBENDS DORF.—Combining farsightedness with hard work and keeping the owning of his own ranch for his goal, Fred Rebendsdorf has attained his objective and is now cultivating the second piece of property he has acquired since coming to Fresno County as a poor boy from his native Russia. Born on the River Volga, near Dinkel, Samara, November 12, 1877, he is a son of Fred and Mary (Schroeder) Rebendsdorf, natives of Russia, and farmer folk there; the father passed to his reward in the old country, but the mother is rounding out her years in Fresno.

Of the six children born to his parents, Fred Rebendsdorf is the youngest, and was raised on the home farm while attending the public schools of his native province. He later served in the artillery of the Russian Army, and on receiving his honorable discharge followed farming. His marriage occurred in Dinkel in 1902, and united him with Miss Mary Thompson, also born there. In 1903 the young people made the long journey to the United States, and for one year located in South Dakota; then, in 1904, they came to Fresno, and here Mr. Rebendsdorf was for two years in the employ of the Santa Fe railroad. The following two years he did ranch work; and then he felt able to buy his first property, consisting of twenty acres at Rolinda, on White's Bridge Road. This he improved to alfalfa and engaged in dairying. Four years later he sold the ranch at a good profit and in 1912 bought his present place of thirty acres in Barstow District, thirteen miles northwest of Fresno. This property he has improved to vineyards, putting in Thompson seedless grapes, and some of the acreage he devotes to alfalfa. Here he has built his residence and other buildings necessary to ranch work. Ten children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rebendsdorf: Annie; Fred Jr.; Peter; Alexander; Henry; William; Mollie; Emma; Jacob, and Walter all at home with their parents. The family attend the Lutheran Church in Fresno. Mr. Rebendsdorf is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and in politics is a Republican.

DEUTA SULPRIZIO.—The Adriatic provinces are wonderfully attractive to the traveler because of their picturesque old-time life, quaint towns, interesting and beautiful national costumes and extraordinary scenery. Among these provinces is Abruzzi, on Italy's eastern shore, where Deuta Sulprizio, the proprietor of Sulprizio's Auto Machine Shop, was born November 2, 1884. He received a public school education, completing it in the high school in his native country, and at the age of sixteen, while still a school student, started in to learn the machinist's trade. From fifteen to eighteen years of age he followed bicycle and motorcycle racing, later becoming an expert automobile racer in England, France and Italy, winning a number of prizes in long-distance races. He worked at his trade of machinist in different cities of Italy until twenty years of age, when he entered the School of Me-

chanical and Nautical Engineering, where he became an expert. One year after graduation he was foreman of a large shop in Italy. Later he worked in the navy yard shops at Naples as marine engineer. For three and one-half years he was foreman on construction. Part of the time he saw service on the sea as marine engineer on torpedo-boats and battleships, and took long trips on newly constructed gasoline launches, delivering them to battle-ships. His experience as marine engineer caused his services to be sought by L. A. Norris, of San Francisco, Cal., owner of the seagoing eighty-foot yacht Seafair, then in the bay of Naples, Italy. He was engineer on this yacht on a 30,000-mile trip from Naples to Malta, China, Japan, India and the Philippine Islands—a trip lasting nearly a year—finally sailing through the Golden Gate, San Francisco, November 25, 1911.

Since the date of his landing, Mr. Sulprizio has been actively engaged at his trade in California. He was employed in the garage of Waterman Brothers at Fresno for seven months, and then worked in Tulare, Modesto and Los Angeles. In 1914 he returned to Fresno and started a small machine repair shop on I Street. The gradual expansion of his business caused him to move to larger quarters on I and Merced Streets, and later to Inyo and I Streets. In April, 1918, he moved to his present shop at 507 I Street, where he has one of the most commodious and up-to-date places in Fresno, fully equipped with machinery for carrying on his steadily growing business. He does cylinder regrinding, carries special makes of pistons, and does general mechanical work, tractor repairing, etc.

MORTEN POULSEN.—A justly popular Danish-American in the vicinity of Parlier is Morten Poulsen. He owns twenty acres a mile and a half west of Parlier, where he has resided for six months. He was born at Ribe, in Denmark, on September 12, 1875, the son of Paul Poulsen, a farmer, who married Marie Sorensen, and after a very industrious life, died in his native land, aged fifty-four years. Mrs. Poulsen is still living at Ribe, the mother of ten children, who grew up, and little Marie, who died a child, in Denmark. These seven boys and three girls are as follows: Claus S., a farmer, married, in Denmark; and his twin brother, Morten, the subject of this interesting review; Anna K., the wife of Jess Andersen; Inga, the wife of Ben Tobiasen; Soren J., a rancher living near Parlier; Nils Marius, also a rancher; Anton M., a carpenter and single, who is doing a patriot's duty at Camp Lewis; Christina, the wife of William Kallerup, who is in the restaurant business at San Francisco; Knudt Einar, single, an infantryman at Camp Freeman; Hans H., who was killed on July 28, 1917, in France.

After attending the excellent Danish schools until he was nineteen, Morten went to sea, and for seven years coursed the briny deep on sailing vessels and steamships. He also put out from England for three years, when he worked for the Atlantic Transport Line. For this strenuous activity he was well prepared, for before becoming a sailor he was a fisherman, and worked for three years on a fishing vessel hailing from Germany. He first came to America in 1903, when he sailed in the Coast-trade ships busy in transporting cotton. He had taken passage on a steamer from Southampton for New York, and having gotten his bearings in the American metropolis, he engaged with the Morgan line. After that he served for six months in laying and repairing the cable from Galveston to Vera Cruz; and he also helped repair the cable from Florida to Bermuda. During the years 1906-07, Mr. Poulsen was in the Danish Navy, cruising in the Mediterranean Sea, where he did duty as a marine. Before he went into the Danish Navy, he had sailed mostly in German and English ships. He doubled Cape Horn twice, and the Cape of Good Hope once; and so, through all these wide wanderings, in which he visited and sojourned in more lands than most people even read of in detail, he came to know much about life on the globe as a whole, and is therefore today wonderfully well informed.

Mr. Poulsen also joined the gold-seekers and went to the frozen North. In 1907 he sailed for Alaska, and from June to October, 1908, he was at Nome. He worked for the Sunset Mining Company and other smaller concerns, bought and ran a water business, and in November, 1909, sold out and came south again. Just prior to this experience, he had revisited Denmark and there met Jess Andersen, elsewhere referred to in this work, and on his return to Fresno County he followed him, Mr. Andersen being then married to his sister.

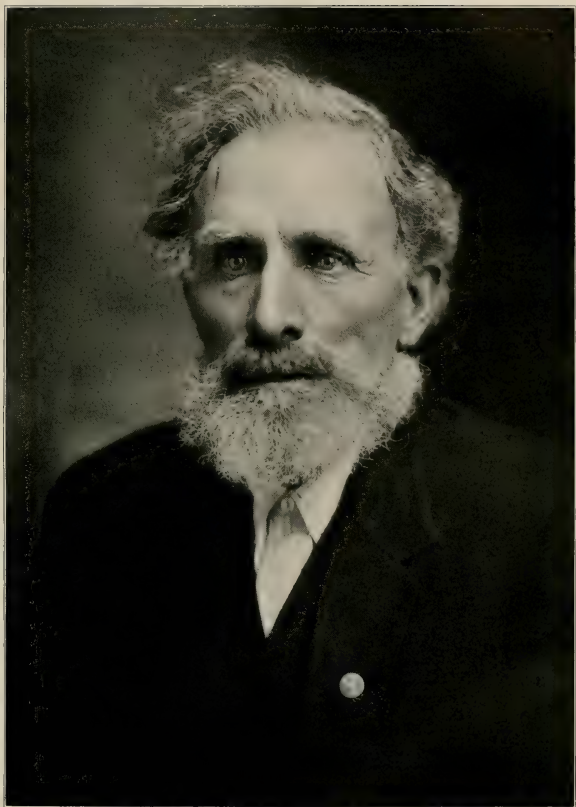
In January, 1910, Mr. Poulsen returned to California, and on November 23 of the following year he married Kristina Jensen, who came from Ribe, where she was born, to California, the year before. Two children have blessed this happy union: Agnes Marie, and Hans Hansen. Now snugly settled on the twenty-acre tract that he owns in the Danish Colony, Morten looks back with more satisfaction than regret on his hard work at sea, which extended through twelve years, as a seaman and marine. During the first three years he fished mostly in the North Sea, the Shetland Islands, and at Iceland, and is enthusiastic when he relates the sporting side of the fisherman's life there.

Mr. Poulsen was chosen president of the Danish Brotherhood, organized for the district two miles west of Parlier, in January, 1918; and he is a member of the Danish Lutheran Church, three miles west of Parlier, and an ex-member of its board of trustees. Mr. Poulsen is an A1 sort of citizen; and the same measure of esteem and good-will is bestowed upon his wife and children, as upon himself.

JES HANSEN.—Denmark has given to the United States many of her best citizens, men who have become very successful and influential in the various localities in which they have settled. California has received her share of these thrifty men and they have adapted themselves to their new surroundings and greatly aided in the upbuilding of the horticultural, viticultural and agricultural interests of Fresno County.

Jes Hansen, the subject of this sketch, is a native of Slesvig, Denmark, born February 5, 1853, a son of Nis Hansen, who, when last heard from, is still living in Denmark, at the advanced age of eighty-three years. The mother of Jes Hansen was, in maidenhood, Karen Jacobsen and she was the mother of three children, Jes being the only son and the oldest child. He was reared on a farm in Denmark and attended the public schools of his native country. Determined to get away from the Prussian military oppression to which his native province was subjected after the war of 1864, Jes went to Denmark in 1870, remaining there until 1875 when he migrated to America, landing at New York City, from which place he continued his journey by vessel to Panama. After crossing the Isthmus he sailed to San Francisco where he landed July 8, 1875. He secured employment on Sherman Island where he worked on a farm until January 1, 1876. He next engaged in the fishing business, with partners, and they fished for salmon in the Sacramento River for eight months of the year, during the salmon season, and in the summertime Jes was employed in ranch work. This work he followed for four years and was quite successful in his enterprise.

In 1878 he purchased twenty acres in Washington Colony, Fresno County, and in November, 1879, located upon his ranch. With his characteristic enterprise Jes began to improve his place by planting an orchard, vineyard and alfalfa. He remained on this place until 1888 when he rented it and went to the west side of the county where he homesteaded 160 acres three miles east of Huron. Jes Hansen improved this ranch, secured his deed for the place and followed farming there until 1893. Afterwards he removed to San Luis Obispo County where he engaged in grain farming east of Creston, but dry years, with their natural sequence, poor crops, precluded his making a success in that undertaking, so he moved in 1898 to a place near Paso Robles, on the Huero Huero where he leased land, followed farming, ran a combined harvester and in this way succeeded in



Jes Hansen

getting another start. Jes Hansen then began to think of his prosperous days in Fresno County and longed to return there which he did in 1904, when he purchased twenty acres of his present ranch, which at that time was raw land. He soon improved the land and planted vines and trees, later purchasing twenty acres adjoining and today his highly cultivated ranch of forty acres on Pierce Avenue includes fifteen acres in peaches, a vineyard of twenty acres and five acres of alfalfa.

In 1883, Jes Hansen was united in marriage with Mary Mortensen, a native of Jylland, Denmark; the ceremony being solemnized in the Washington Colony, Fresno County. This union has been blessed with six children: John, is a farmer in the Roosevelt district; Mary, is now the wife of Kelly Cole, who is in active service in the United States Navy, stationed in South American waters, while Mrs. Cole makes her home at San Pedro; Martin and Charles are both serving with the United States Army in France; Annie and Carrie are both living at San Pedro.

Religiously, Mr. Hansen is a member of the Lutheran Church and in politics supports the Republican ticket. He is a stockholder and member of both the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company. Mr. Hansen is especially interested in advancing the educational interests of the community which he has manifested by serving as school trustee of McKinley district, having been a member of the board when the new school house was built. He planted the trees around the school yard, looked after their care and to him are due the thanks of the children and students of the district for the large trees that beautify the grounds today.

L. ROY PAYNE.—The opportunities for business growth and financial development presented by the city of Fresno have strongly appealed to the ambitions of a few men who were destined to make their way in the business world, and who, by their strength of character and conservative judgment, have aided in building the superstructure of the commonwealth's growth and prosperity upon a secure and permanent foundation. Such a man is L. R. Payne, who has had much to do with the raisin-growing and packing industry of the San Joaquin Valley and is recognized as the pioneer member of the California Associated Raisin Company. He was born on January 31, 1876, at Clyde, Allegan County, Mich., a son of John H. and Cecelia (Askings) Payne, natives of England and Allegan County, Mich., respectively. John H. Payne came with his father to the United States, settled in Michigan, where he grew up on a farm and later engaged in the insurance business. He died in Michigan at the age of seventy-eight years. Mrs. Payne is a daughter of a Pennsylvania farmer who was a pioneer of Michigan. She is living in Fresno. There were four sons and one daughter in the Payne family, two sons are now deceased.

Roy Payne, as he is familiarly called by his friends, spent his boyhood in Allegan County, meanwhile attending the grammar and high schools in Vicksburg, that state. He finished his education in Kalamazoo College, graduating in 1892, after which he became a bookkeeper at Sturgis, Mich., where he remained until he accepted a position with the Producers' Fruit Company at Fresno. He remained with this concern for sometime and became familiar with the industry, then accepted a similar position with the Fresno Home Packing Company. By steady application to business he gradually worked his way to the front and soon was able to purchase an interest in the plant. This was in 1898, at which time he was elected a member of the board of directors and was made secretary. In 1902 he was elected vice-president and made outside manager, having charge of all outside packing interests. This company owned the first seeded-raisin packing plant in the San Joaquin Valley, built up a lucrative business and established several branch houses. In 1902 there was a consolidation of five independent packing houses, the concern being known as the Pacific Coast Seeded-Raisin Company, and was the largest shipper of raisins in the state. The buildings erected by the company were some of the largest in the state used for that purpose and

were fitted with the most modern machinery, labor-saving devices and nowhere in the world was there a more modern plant of like character. Mr. Payne devoted his entire time to the upbuilding of the company until 1913, when an organization was effected whereby this and many other packing plants in the San Joaquin Valley were taken over by the California Associated Raisin Company, and Mr. Payne assumed a very responsible position with the new concern, holding it until in February, 1919, when he was advanced to the position of operating manager. The duties of his position are educational for the grower, with whom Mr. Payne advises as to the best methods to be applied to get the best results and to standardize the output of Sun-Maid Raisins. He also settles all the difficulties that arise with the growers, passes on the quality of his raisins, in fact takes the crop from the grower to the packing house. When it is taken into consideration that there are some 9,000 growers in the organization it will be seen that his position is one that require a perfect knowledge of the industry in all its branches and the ability, tact and skill to manage men. The California Associated Raisin Company is one of the largest of its kind in the world and Mr. Payne is exerting a strong influence towards making the business a success.

L. R. Payne was united in marriage at Oakland, December 19, 1901, with Miss Della M. Hodges, a native of California and the daughter of I. A. Hodges, a pioneer of Fresno County. Of this union two children have been born, Marian Frances and Dorothy. Mr. Payne was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., belongs to Trigo Chapter No. 69, R. A. M., Fresno Commandery No. 29, K. T., Fresno Lodge of Perfection, and Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. He is one of the honorary members of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Committee. He installed the exhibit for the California Associated Raisin Company at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco, and this exhibit took the Grand Prize. He is a member of the Sequoia, Commercial and Sunnyside Country Clubs in Fresno. All projects for the upbuilding of Fresno County have his active co-operation and he is recognized as a prominent man of affairs throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

REV. E. MOLLOY, C. S. S. R.—A learned, benevolent and distinguished representative of the Roman Catholic clergy, who occupies an honored position in the religious life of Fresno and Fresno County, is the Rev. E. Molloy, the beloved head of St. Alphonsus Church, parish school and convent at Fresno.

He was born in Newfoundland on November 13, 1881, and his father, John Molloy, was likewise a native of that picturesque and historic region. He taught school for thirty years at Gussett's Cove, Conception Bay, and his memory, as that of a model schoolmaster, is still revered there. The mother was Charlotte Murphy before her marriage, and she was also a native of Newfoundland. John Molloy and his wife had seven children—six boys and a girl—six of whom grew to maturity; and four of the sons and the daughter are still living. In 1901, the parents moved to Boston, and there, in February, 1918, the father died at the age of eighty-six years. He was an exceptionally mild and modest man, full of love and benevolence; and he continued to be called "the Master" unto the day of his death. Mrs. Molloy is still living, eighty-eight years old.

Reverend Molloy commenced his studies under his father, then at Sarsfield school, in Montreal, where he was graduated, after which he entered the Loyola Jesuit College on Richmond Street, Montreal, in 1896, where he started his classics and continued until June, 1898. That fall he entered the Redemptorist Junior Seminary at Kirkwood, near St. Louis, Mo., and in June, 1900, was graduated from the classical course. After fifteen months of novitiate at the Redemptorist Novitiate at Kansas City, Mo., he was duly professed on August 15, 1902, whereupon he entered the higher Redemptorist Seminary at De Soto, Mo., and there pursued courses in philosophy, dogmatic and moral theology. On May 20, 1908, he was ordained in St. Alphonsus Church, St. Louis, by Rt. Rev. Archbishop Glennon, when he spent another eighteen months in the further study of theology and special preparation for the Missions.



Carl Christian

On November 11, 1909, Father Molloy arrived in California and became an assistant to Father Henry Weber, who built St. Alphonsus' Church, and the Parish House at Fresno; and in 1915 Father Molloy succeeded him as Superior and Rector. The Church owns two blocks of land, 300x375 feet in size on Kearney Avenue and Trinity Street upon which the Church Parish House and School are located, while the Sisters' Convent is in the block to the east. The object of the future is to make this an educational center and the plan is to build a Boys' College and Boarding School.

In 1916, Father Molloy built St. Alphonsus' School, where instruction is given in the eight grammar school grades, and a business or commercial course as well as a musical course is provided. The teachers are Sisters of the Order of the Holy Cross, and are graduated from the University of Indiana, at Notre Dame. The Sisters' Convent was founded at the same time that the school was started by Father Molloy. Connected with the St. Alphonsus charge are the two outside missions of Clovis and Sanger, both in Fresno County, and to carry on this work nine priests and two lay brothers reside at the Parish House of St. Alphonsus. They also give Missions in various sections of California, Nevada and Arizona.

During the late War drives, Father Molloy was one of the "Four-Minute Speakers" working under the direction of the Committee on Public Information at Washington, and being popular, as a devoted citizen of Fresno, his influence in the arousing and sustaining of patriotic, unselfish sentiment was potent. He was only perpetuating a tradition of the Molloy family, however, for his grandparents were known, with their families, as among the sturdiest and most loyal of Newfoundland pioneers.

CARL CHRISTIAN.—A very energetic and enterprising resident of Fresno County who has made a success of viticulture and horticulture and made an estimable place for himself in the community is Carl Christian who was born on the Volga River in Tarlikofka, Samara, Russia, April 24, 1880. The youngest of nine children born to Phillip and Marie Catherine (Rinehart) Christian who reared their family on a farm and are still living and engaged in husbandry in that country. Carl received a good education in the local schools and at the same time learned to farm. After his school days were over he was apprenticed at the bricklayer's trade, working at it during the summer, while winters he worked at the shoemaker's trade, becoming an experienced workman in both lines and followed these trades until twenty-one years of age, then he entered the Russian Army serving in a cavalry regiment stationed at Keifskibolk, Russia. This was during the Russo-Japanese war, his regiment being used to suppress a local revolution in which some of the soldiers had joined the Revolutionary party. In the engagements that followed Mr. Christian was twice wounded. After serving five years and five months he was honorably discharged as a non-commissioned officer, returning home in December, 1906. In January, 1907, he was married to Miss Mary Bideen, and in March, 1907, they started for Fresno, arriving here May 16, 1907.

In October of the same year he purchased a twenty-acre ranch on Jensen Avenue near the Highland school. This he improved from raw land to a vineyard of Muscat and Thompson seedless raisins as well as a peach orchard. Bringing it to a high state of cultivation he sold it four years later at a good profit. He then resided in Fresno and contracted for curing peaches during the season and also working at the bricklayer's trade until he purchased fifty acres in Kutner Colony devoted to vineyard and orchard, selling it two years later at a very satisfactory advance. Mr. Christian then purchased twenty-eight acres also in the Kutner Colony devoted to vineyard and two years later also sold this at a good advance. Next he leased a ranch on Olive Avenue, near Fresno, for a year and then purchased a 100-acre ranch in Gray Colony, setting a part to vineyard and also leased land and raised grain. A year later he sold this ranch more than doubling his money. Mr. and Mrs. Christian have one son, Phillip.

They are members of the Free Cross Lutheran Church, Mr. Christian having been a member of its Board of Trustees. He is a stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company as well as the California Peach Growers, Inc. He is an original stockholder in the California Post, a weekly newspaper in Fresno. He performs his civic duties as a Republican.

JOHN J. and HENRY N. MERCY.—The name of Mercy is closely associated with the development of the West Side, the present representatives of the family being John J. and Henry N. Mercy, who are both well and favorably known. Their father, John N., was born in Lorraine, France, and came to San Francisco, Cal., in 1849. He mined in the Sierras, ran a bakery in San Juan, then farmed in Napa County, after which he located in Gilroy. In 1861 he started in sheep-raising with 300 Mexican sheep, driving them over Pacheco Pass into the San Joaquin Valley. In 1863 he moved his family to the Little Penoché Creek, Fresno County, where he took a preemption and also a homestead. He increased his flocks and as he prospered he purchased land. However, he had losses as well as gains. In 1877, the dry year, he took 11,800 head of sheep to the Sierras and returned with only 1,800 head. In 1871 he discovered the Little Penoché Quick Silver mine, opened it up and formed a company and operated it. He also developed another cinnabar mine on his own account. He became owner of 12,000 acres of land. He was paralyzed and was a total invalid for nineteen years and eleven months, until his death, 1899. He was married in San Jose, Cal., to Mariana Ekert, born in Alsace, who came to California in pioneer days; her demise occurred at the old Mercy home about twelve years ago. She was the mother of three children: Albert, died at the age of fourteen; John Joseph and Henry N., are the subjects of this article. John Joseph was born in San Francisco, October 11, 1861, coming to the Little Penoché when he was but two years of age. He attended Golden Gate Academy in Oakland and St. Mary's College in San Francisco, and then the Gilroy High School, where he was graduated.

After his graduation he entered heartily into sheep growing, and when his father became an invalid, with his brother, Henry, took charge of the place and have since then given it their undivided time. In early days a Yaki Indian shepherd, Francisco Sanava, discovered a spring in the canyon and told their father of it; he dug a hole and the deeper they dug the warmer the water, so the father put a box in for bathing in the hot water as it came from the earth. Later on they dug it deeper to obtain more water for large flocks and found the water still hotter. John J. homesteaded the 160 acres on which the spring was located and obtained a title. People were attracted by the bathing and the water and found it had great curative and medicinal properties particularly for rheumatism, stomach trouble and sores and Mercy Mineral Hot Springs became popular. While they owned it the water was not only free but the bathing was free. However, the Mercy's finally decided the exploitation of the springs was out of their line so they sold it, so that the water and benefits might be obtained to a greater extent by the public. The Mercy ranch extends about six miles along the Little Penoché Creek and is an excellent stock ranch. About twenty years ago they sold their sheep and have since been engaged in raising cattle, their brand, J and H combined, being well known. They have installed four pumping plants which they use in irrigating alfalfa.

John J. Mercy was married in Hollister in 1885 to Lorana Witter, born in Calaveras County, the daughter of Chester R. and Nancy (Skaggs) Witter, born in Brodhead, Wis., and St. Louis, Mo., respectively. Mr. Witter was also a forty-niner. Mr. and Mrs. John J. Mercy have three children: Irma, Mrs. Burge of Little Penoché; Alta, Mrs. Trowbridge of Los Angeles; and William who assists his father. Henry N. Mercy was born in Napa County, July 4, 1863, and was brought to the Little Penoché when a babe. When of school age he went to San Francisco, studying at St. Mary's Academy, San Francisco, and the Golden Gate Academy. After completing his education he went to work with



Nicolai Petersen

his father on the ranch. The brothers remember the desperadoes T. Vasques and John Mason and how they tried to trade horses with the former. Neither of them, however, molested the family. However, the brothers did not know until later years who they were and their desperate character. Henry N. Mercy was married in Hollister to Mary Spangler, a native of Ashland, Ore., and have four children: Lottie, Mrs. Ernest Martin and Emily, Mrs. Ted Russ, both residing in Los Angeles; Eugene and Thelma are still at home. The former assisting his father in his ranching enterprise. Both John and Henry Mercy are protectionists and decidedly Republican in politics.

NICOLAI PETERSEN.—Descended from an old and honorable Danish family Nicolai Petersen was born near Nyborg, Fyen, Denmark, March 2, 1856, the same year that Fresno County was organized. He is the fifth oldest in a family of ten children, three of whom are in the United States. Rasmus resides with our subject and Sophia, Mrs. Carl Poulsen, also resides in Fresno County. Nicolai Petersen received a good education in the schools of his native country which has been supplemented by reading and observation until he is a well-informed man. His parents were farmers so Nicolai early learned the rudiments of farming as it is done in his native land. Being interested in husbandry and liking the freedom and open life he chose it as his life work and engaged in farming his father's place until 1894, when he purchased a farm and made a specialty of dairying; a business he had always followed. In 1902 he sold his place. He had a desire to visit the Pacific Coast, so came to California, arriving in September, 1904. Being a man who was never idle he sought employment, which he found with H. Madsen, continuing with him for two and one-half years. During this time, however, he came to like Fresno County and its people, so in July, 1905, he purchased his present place of forty acres in American Colony. Resigning his place with Mr. Madsen he located on his ranch and made substantial improvements and sowed it to alfalfa and began dairying, in which he has met with success having built up a herd of the Holstein strain, and is also raising some fine specimens of horse flesh. He also owns thirty acres on Fig Avenue which he has improved to alfalfa. Mr. Petersen intends to devote his home place to dairying and turn the ranch on Fig Avenue to a vineyard and plans to set it out to Thompson seedless vines the soil being well adapted to that purpose.

Mr. Petersen has always been a very active man, a great worker and ambitious, believing the wealth and progress of a country depends upon the success of the tillers of the soil. Being reared a Lutheran he adheres to that faith. Mr. Petersen's views in politics are expressed in the platform of the Democratic Party.

J. R. JOHNSON.—A naturalized Swedish-American is J. R. Johnson, an ardent admirer of Roosevelt and Senator Johnson. He was born at Westervik, in the northern part of Sweden, on March 27, 1859, the son of Jonas Wilhelm and Louisa Maria Johnson, both of whom died at advanced ages in Sweden. Grandfather Johnson lived to be one hundred ten years old; while the father, who passed away in 1917, was ninety-eight. Jonas Johnson was foreman of a large Swedish farm, where they worked forty-five yoke of oxen and twenty-five teams of horses; and working under the valuable guidance of his father, the lad grew up to farm work.

When J. R. Johnson came from Sweden to America, he continued West as far as Holdrege, Nebr., and for two years worked out on Nebraska farms, and for the next ten years tended bar in Holdrege. He became converted, however, and at once quit the saloon business, and for the next decade engaged at draying in the same town. This period was sufficient for him to thoroughly "find himself" and to learn what he was capable of doing, in order to become most useful to his fellow-men. He worked hard, lived frugally, brought up his large family in clean, moral surroundings and lived a consistent, Christian life.

Coming out to California, he was for a short time in Los Angeles, but he had his attention directed to Kingsburg. A friend had bought a tract of 2,000 acres south and east of Kingsburg, and he offered him his first choice of any forty acres there, at a very reasonable price and on long-time terms. Mr. Johnson bought it, though unimproved; he had come to Kingsburg on January 10, 1908, with only \$300; he put what money he could into a barn, and lived in the barn for the first few years, until he could get enough means to build a house. He and his good wife and children worked very hard; they planted, built and otherwise improved; and the friend who sold him the land helped him out with credit. Finally, his place was all paid for and improved; and in December, 1918, he sold it to his son Thor for \$25,000, since which time he has lived retired in Kingsburg.

While in Holdrege, Mr. Johnson was married to Miss Anna Louisa Johnson, and their union has been blessed with the birth of eight children. Minnie is now the wife of L. C. Nelson, and they live near Clark's bridge, east of Kingsburg; Hazel is the wife of Joe Shirling, who conducts an automobile and bicycle repair shop in Kingsburg and is interested in two stores besides. Selma lives at home; Thor is proprietor, as has been stated, of the old home place; Vivian L. is in the United States Navy; Reuben is in the grocery business; Linnea is at home; while Floyd is engaged in ranching near Kingsburg.

Mr. Johnson and his wife, together with their children, belong to the Swedish Methodist Church. He was naturalized in Nebraska and was originally a Democrat; but of late years he has become a Republican, and recently he has marched in the same columns with Roosevelt and Johnson—the good fellowship of the Progressives.

PROSPER J. BERGON.—A native son of California who is making a success at ranching, Prosper J. Bergon was born in Riversidé, April 2, 1888. His father, Frank Bergon, was born in Basses-Pyrenees, France. He served in the Franco-Prussian War in 1870 and 1871. About 1878 he came to Southern California and began sheep-raising, making his headquarters in Fullerton. In the dry year of 1895 he lost many of his band of sheep, and then sold the balance and engaged in raising grain at Palms, where he continued until 1903. He then leased the Brea Ranch in Hollywood from Mrs. Hancock and farmed it until December 17, 1917, when he sold his outfit and stock and purchased a residence in Colegrove, on Melrose and Vine. Two months later he died, at the age of seventy years. His wife, the mother of Prosper J., was in maidenhood Mary Noussitou also born in Basses-Pyrenees. She is living in Colegrove. To this worthy couple were born seven children, five of whom are still living, Prosper being the eldest.

Mr. Bergon's childhood was spent on the farm in Southern California, where he received a good education in the schools in Palms. As early as eight years of age he drove horses on the hay baler. He continued with his father on the Brea ranch, and in time became his partner, operating with him until 1912 when he sold his interest to him and came to Fresno. Here he leased the Gallagher place of 860 acres in Dakota Colony, where he is engaged in raising grain, putting in about 300 acres a year to wheat. He finds he gets the best results by summer-fallowing each year, which gives him a surer and larger yield. About 100 acres is devoted to alfalfa and he is also engaged in raising hay and in dairying, in which is very successful.

Mr. Bergon was married in Los Angeles to Miss Anna Castahaude, a native of Basses-Pyrenees, France, who came to Los Angeles when she was a young lady. Mr. and Mrs. Bergon have had two children, Frank and Albert. The latter passed away in March, 1917, aged nineteen months. Mr. Bergon is clerk of the board of trustees of Sunset school district, having been a member since the organization of the district. Liberal and kind-hearted, he and his good wife have won an estimable place among the citizens of their community. Mr. Bergon is a member of the Foresters of America in Los Angeles. In politics he is a Republican.

ALBERT HAGOPEAN.—As early as 1881, Albert Hagopean came from Smyrna, landing in New York City, August 21, and the next day he took out his first papers for American citizenship, and he congratulates himself that at the earliest occasion possible, he cemented the bonds between himself and his adopted country. The other fact of which Mr. Hagopean is proud is that he cast his lot in the Golden State.

His grandfather was Hampartzoum Charkian, a native of Constantinople, as was his father before him, and the latter was a fisherman and owned a number of fishing smacks in the Sea of Marmora, with which he caught fish for the markets at Constantinople. The grandfather was a maker of gold-plates and cups for table use, for the aristocracy of the palace, such as the Sultan princes and pashas, shahs in Islam and caliphs—these being the leading ruling people of the Turkish Empire and the Mohammedan faith. He was the first man who imported a lathe from Europe with which to turn out gold and silver dishes; and became well-to-do.

His father, who was born in Constantinople of pure Armenian blood, the Rev. Hagopean, was a preacher of the Gospel and a Congregational minister, connected, for forty years, with the American Missionary Board. He labored at Smyrna, one of the seven churches in which the great St. Paul extemporized. Mrs. Hagopean was a rich man's daughter, Nectar Manoukian before her marriage, born in Jerusalem, and her father was the head of the Armenian Protestants in Smyrna, and was the recognized head of the latter body in dealings with the Government. The father became converted by the preaching of Dr. Hamlin, an American missionary of the Congregational Church stationed at Constantinople, and concluded to enter the ministry. He therefore went to the Congregational Theological School at Babek on the Bosphorus and there learned English. He graduated and before the Crimean War came to America on a sailing vessel, being on the ocean for four months; the company braved both storms and icebergs, and were finally driven to Newfoundland, although their destination was New York harbor. Being a turner, he obtained work in his line at the Howe Sewing Machine works; he attended night school and further enlarged his knowledge of English and other useful subjects. After five years he became seriously ill; and as the doctors advised a change of climate, he went back to Constantinople and there taught school. For a while he was again at Balat and at the Golden Horn in Constantinople, and then he was sent to Smyrna and ordained to preach by the Congregational Church. While there he fell in love with a teacher in an American private seminary and was eventually married to her. She was also highly educated in the Armenian, Turkish, Greek, English and French languages, and she became just as enthusiastic in pursuing the work of the Christian ministry as was her husband, who devoted the rest of his life to missionary preaching, serving thus for forty years. Then he retired and, in 1898, died at Constantinople, aged eighty years. His good wife outlived him, and died, during 1904, in Constantinople, at the age of seventy-five years. This esteemed couple were blessed with three children.

Albert was born, November 20, 1859. He was well-educated in the Armenian school at Smyrna and at the Robert College in Constantinople, where he learned English, French, Greek, Turkish and Armenian. He was made an apprentice to the trade of watchmaker at Smyrna and in Constantinople, and served six and a half years at the bench. In 1881 he came to America and during the first year worked in a jewelry store on John Street, New York City. The following year he moved west to Chicago and thence to Elgin, working in the famous watch factory, until 1910; and so skilled was he that he gained the distinction of being one of the expert workmen. Mr. Hagopean was married, at Elgin, in 1899, to Miss Blanche Mann, the daughter of Michael and Margaret (Connor) Mann, the second child in a family of ten. She was educated in the public schools at Elgin, and thus well prepared to assume the duties and responsibilities of life.

Our subject had long desired to see California; and having saved his money, he came west to look around in 1895, when he stayed a year; but the effect of the hard times rather discouraged him, and he concluded to go back to Elgin and the watch factory. In 1906 he came to Fresno County and to Parlier, and bought his present place of twenty-five and three-fourths acres, one one-half miles southeast of Parlier; but again he returned to Elgin, and it was only in 1910 that he sold his residence in the latter place and came to California for good, since which time he has been steadily improving his ranch. In the beginning the only fruit on the ranch was five acres of zinfandel grapes, but he has grafted the zinfandels onto Thompson seedless, and planted six acres to malagas; he has two acres of alfalfa, while the balance of the land is rough and unimproved. He has erected a modern bungalow and necessary outbuildings.

Mr. Hagopean has always displayed a fervid patriotism, and while at Elgin he enlisted in the State Militia and served five years in that city as a member of Company E of the Third Illinois Regiment. Again, when the Spanish-American War broke out, he volunteered for the infantry of the same organization, and reenlisted at Springfield, Ill., in the regular United States Army. He trained in camp at Chickamauga, went thence to Newport News, where he took the transport St. Louis to Porto Rico, and there served under Generals Brooks and Miles until peace was declared. There were many Corsicans at Arroyo and Guyama; and inasmuch as Mr. Hagopean could speak French, he was selected as interpreter and later was made acting quartermaster. He continued with the regiment until it returned to the United States in November, 1898, coming back by way of Hoboken, and was honorably discharged at Joliet, Ill., on January 29, 1899, never once being sick. He is now a member of the Spanish War Veterans at Fresno.

His daily activities as a viticulturist and horticulturist engage him more and more, for Mr. Hagopean has the scientific mind and insists on himself growing while his plants and fruit develop. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and in supporting their programs does heroic pioneer work, realizing that the present prosperity of the county is due entirely to organization.

J. P. I. BECK.—Numbered among the enterprising and successful ranchers in the vicinity of Kerman, is J. P. I. Beck, who is the owner of 180 acres of land which he operates himself. During the few years in which Mr. Beck has been engaged in viticulture he has attained enviable success as a vineyardist. Mr. Beck is a native of Denmark, born April 29, 1886, at Trige, Jutland, a son of Niels and Metta Marie Beck. The parents are living retired in Aarhus, Denmark. Of their eight children, J. P. I. was the fifth in order of birth, and was reared on the home place, receiving his education in the public schools of his neighborhood. When fifteen he was apprenticed to a baker at Aarhus, for four years, and after learning the trade he worked as a journeyman baker in different parts of Denmark. Mr. Beck desired to see more of the world, and especially the United States of America, where so many of his countrymen had achieved success. Bidding good-bye to his native land, he emigrated to America, arriving in New York City, in April, 1906. He found work at his trade in the great metropolis and also followed it in Brooklyn and across the river in New Jersey.

The turning-point in the life of J. P. I. Beck was reached when he decided to leave the eastern cities and seek his fortune in the great West. It was in 1907 that he came to California, and settled in Fresno County, where he decided to abandon his trade and engage in viticulture. He secured work in Mr. Petersen's vineyard in the Empire Colony, and also worked on the place which he afterwards owned. Later he worked on an alfalfa ranch in the Barstow Colony and in 1908 leased an alfalfa ranch which he operated for two years. During these years Mr. Beck was gaining valuable experience



Andrew Nelson

and planning to have a ranch of his own, which happy day came in 1910, when he purchased his present ranch of fifty acres on Empire Avenue, and there for two years he conducted a dairy. Afterwards he engaged in viticulture and horticulture and increased his holdings by purchasing a twenty-acre tract devoted to an orchard and vineyard, located one-half mile west of his place. Later he purchased 110 acres of raw land and has twenty acres of this devoted to alfalfa, and he also raises grain and corn.

In September, 1910, J. P. I. Beck was united in marriage with Miss Mary Hansen, a native of Copenhagen, and a daughter of A. C. Hansen, whose sketch will also be found in this volume. Their marriage was solemnized in Fresno; they have four children: Herman, deceased; Anna, Ellen and Laura. They are members of the Danish Lutheran Church at Fresno. Mr. Beck is a member of the Danish Brotherhood and holds membership in both the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. He is held in high esteem in this community.

ANDREW NELSON.—A man who left an enviable record for doing things and building up the viticultural and horticultural interests of Fresno County is the late Andrew Nelson, who was born at Olgod, Jylland, Denmark, December 30, 1855. His parents being farmers, he was reared to that occupation. After completing the public and high school he studied agriculture on a large farm under an experienced preceptor. After this he served the required time in the Danish Army after which he gave his attention to farming until 1881, then he spent one year in a mercantile establishment in Varde when he decided to come to America. He arrived in New York City in the spring of 1882, he came gradually westward until the fall of 1882 he located in Fresno.

Entering the employ of Einsteins, he was foreman of the workhouse for several years. However, his agricultural experience in his native place led him into viticulture and he took charge of improving and planting vineyards; among others he leveled and set out the Mason Osborn vineyard. About the same time he purchased twenty acres on Madison Avenue near the Osborn place which he improved, bringing it to a high state of cultivation. In 1904 he purchased a quarter section of land three miles southeast of Dinuba. This was raw land but he set to work to improve it to vines and orchard. He is a member of the Danish Brotherhood as well as Dania. He is also a member of the Odd Fellows in Fresno. Mr. Nelson was one of the leading men of Fresno County and deserves much credit for the work he has accomplished. He is one of the original stockholders in the Danish Creamery Association.

Mr. Nelson made a trip back to his old home in Denmark in 1891. He was married in Fresno, December 17, 1892, to Miss Mette Petersen also a native of Olgod, the Nelson and Petersen families being neighbors. She came to Fresno in the spring of 1892. They have a daughter, Meta, who is a graduate of the University of California. After her husband's death Mrs. Nelson continued to run the vineyards on the same line as her husband, carrying out his plan for the improvement and beautifying of the place. In 1912 she installed a pumping plant on his ranch, thus having two systems of irrigating the ranch. In 1917 Mrs. Nelson rented her ranch and returned to Fresno where she built a beautiful modern residence at 629 North Van Ness Avenue, where she now lives. Mrs. Nelson is a member of the Dania Sisterhood and a Lutheran in religion. After visiting the old home in Denmark she was indeed glad to get back to California for she had learned to appreciate and love the State of her adoption.

JOHN W. HUMPHREYS.—A native son, proud of his association with the Golden State, John W. Humphreys was born at Tollhouse on October 24, 1872, the son of John W. and Martha (Flinn) Humphreys who were pioneers of California and aided in the building up of Fresno County. John attended the public school at Tollhouse, and from a lad learned the stock business. On the death of his father—J. W. Humphreys, Sr.—his widow continued to reside on the home place and to manage both ranch and mill with the aid of her sons, J. W., Roy and Miles O., who had mastered many of

the conditions peculiar to California life at that time. Together they ran the estate from 1900 until 1913, rebuilding the mill from time to time, and even moving it to different localities on Pine Ridge, and adding to their acreage, so that the sons own 1,500 acres in a body on Dry Creek. A decade ago, these same enterprising young men purchased 960 acres under the Herndon Canal which they had no difficulty in reselling, on account of the favorable location, in lots of twenty acres and up, and now only 120 acres are left.

J. W. Humphreys, Jr., followed stock-raising until the death of his father, when he undertook the manufacture of lumber and gave to it so much of his attention that he was successful where others failed. After a while, however, he came down onto the plains and tried a new field—that of vineyardist and orchardist; and in 1913, finding that the mill took too much time, the family sold it, and John was able, by renting the stock-farm, to give all his time to viticulture and horticulture. On the Humphreys ranch, eight miles north-west of Fresno, he was the first to introduce certain features of the industry; and there he has erected a handsome residence and otherwise improved the property. And he threw into the work of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company such support and active cooperation as he could.

At Selma, Mr. Humphreys was married to Miss Georgia Davis, born in Illinois; and together Mr. and Mrs. Humphreys have participated in many movements designed to better life in their community. Mr. Humphreys in particular has been interested in the elevation of politics; and under the banners of the Democratic party he has contributed effective influence. The name of Humphreys is among the most honored in Fresno County annals.

G. N. SHISHMANIAN.—America has always been the refuge of the oppressed from all lands and many have shown their appreciation by a life worthy such kindness, and none is more conspicuous for having made the most of his opportunities than Mr. Shishmanian. He was born in Turkey, in Asia, on the banks of the Euphrates, eighty-four years ago. His father was a banker in Constantinople, and the son grew up amid scenes of refinement and wealth. He was schooled in Babek Seminary, on the banks of the Bosphorus, known as Dr. Hamlin's school, who was an American missionary of the Congregational Church. He learned the Greek, Turkish, Armenian, and English languages, the sciences, mathematics, history and theology.

After a four years course, he was sent to America to complete his education, and entered the North Yarmouth Academy, in the State of Maine. He continued his studies there for two years, when his health failed and he returned to Turkey. Mr. Shishmanian was in Turkey during the Civil War, and at its close came back to America and took up photography for a pastime. He went to Texas and at Dallas joined the Christian Church. Mr. Shishmanian went to Kentucky and entered the University Theological School, and upon graduating, was ordained a missionary.

He married Miss Lucy McClellan, at Lexington, and with his bride returned to Turkey and began his missionary work at Constantinople. For twenty-six years he continued this work under the auspices of the Christian Church.

In 1905 Mr. Shishmanian with his family returned to Kentucky, spent a year and a half among friends, and then came to Fresno in 1907, where he now owns a ten acre raisin vineyard, with good house on Orange Avenue. He also owns a twenty-acre orange grove in Tulare County.

Mr. and Mrs. Shishmanian are the parents of five children: John, a lieutenant in the French army; Orienta, wife of Alfred Aram, U. S. Aviator teacher, who has taught and trained over one hundred aviators; she is now living with her father; Lucy, is the wife of Joseph Cortozian, a merchant in Portland, Ore.; two children died in infancy. Mrs. Shishmanian is a member of the Daughters of the Confederacy and the California Chapter. She was elected a delegate to the convention at Louisville, Ky., in 1919.



Martin Abraham

MARTIN ARDOHAIN.—That perseverance and close application to a chosen line of business will succeed is well illustrated in the life history of Martin Ardohain, a native of France, born near St. Jean, Basses-Pyrenees, March 9, 1876, the seventh oldest of a family of twelve children born to Pierre and Marie Ardohain who were farmers and stockraisers in the Pyrenees region. Of their family of twelve children four are honored residents of California. Martin Ardohain received a good education in the local schools of his native place and from a lad assisted his parents on the farm. When twenty years of age, as was the custom of that country, he entered the French Army, serving in the Sixth Company of Sixth Regiment of Infantry and after the required time was honorably discharged. Becoming interested in the land of the Pacific Coast from the stories told by his countrymen who returned telling of the opportunities awaiting young men willing to work, he concluded to cast in his lot in California, so came hither, arriving in Fresno, October, 1900. Unfortunately he was taken ill and it was more than two months before he recovered sufficiently to go to work. The expense of this illness, as well as his indebtedness for his expenses from his home to California, left him \$700 in debt. Nothing daunted he went to work and applied himself steadily to earn the money to pay his debt and then to acquire capital with which to start in business for himself as was his ambition. He worked the first year for \$25 a month and board. So well did he do his duties and work, his employer then gave him \$30 a month and he continued steadily for four years. Having paid off his debt and acquired some means, in 1905 he and two brothers bought 3,000 head of yearlings, ranging them for seven months and sold out at a profit; then Martin, with his brother, John, bought a flock together and engaged in sheep raising, increasing their flock and doing well. After thirteen years of harmonious business association they dissolved partnership.

Mr. Ardohain now has several thousand head of sheep which he ranges on the plains and in the mountains. He owns a ranch of 160 acres southeast of Huron that he has for his headquarters of his sheep camp in the winter, while summers he leases the Shaver Lake property as well as of the National Forest Reserve on the Upper Kings River. He has also engaged in grain raising at Huron. In 1917 he moved his family from Huron to Fresno, where he resides at 1357 Glenn Street. Mr. Ardohain was married in Fresno, August 15, 1910, to Miss Marie Yrigaray who was also born in his native place and they have two children, Carmen and Louis. He is one of the original stockholders in the Growers National Bank of Fresno.

G. MASELLI.—Mr. Maselli has achieved success in the face of discouragements and deserves the position he now occupies. He was born at Bari, Italy, May 15, 1864. His father was a proprietor of large vineyards and orchards in Italy. His mother's name was Mary Campagna. Both parents died in Italy. Mr. Maselli was highly educated in the University of Padua. He took a special analyst and vineyardist course and became proficient in chemistry. He was a producer and grower of olives, and manufactured olive oil in Italy. He built up a large business, and owned several vineyards, wineries and distilleries, and an olive oil factory. He also owned a chemical laboratory, which he operated in connection with his other business. While thus occupied he devised the method of extracting the oil from grape seeds in commercial quantities. When his first experiments were made, he was a boy at home, and later he worked the process out.

Fifteen years ago Mr. Maselli came here as the special agent and chemist for the California Products Company, his particular work being the extraction of oil from the seed of grapes. It has been found that the seed from ripe grapes contains from fifteen to eighteen per cent. of oil. This oil is used in making fine soaps and fine paints. In paints this oil dries very quickly. Mr. Maselli has the honor of being the first man in the world to do this work in commercial quantities.

About seven years ago he began the manufacture of grape juice. He has now developed the successful method for making ten different brands of grape juice, such as Muscat, Muscatel, Concord, Catawba, Reisling, Burgundy, Vermuth, Ropel, and Tokay. In 1917 he also started in to make a high grade of pure olive oil, known as the "Fresno Brand." He uses the cold process, and is making the very finest olive oil that can be produced—even superior to the finest imported oils. Mr. Maselli took a second prize for his grape juice at the Panama-Pacific Exposition at San Francisco, and has taken three gold medals for his grape juice at the Sacramento State Fair. While in Italy he took two medals for wine. He is building up an industry that bids fair to become very important.

In 1914 Mr. Maselli built his Log Cabin, which is the home of all his products. The Log Cabin, located on the State Highway, immediately south of Fresno, is an original conception and was designed and built by Mr. Maselli himself. In its structure it represents a cabin in an Alpine village. The outside is faced with natural redwood, pine and fir bark, cut and arranged to represent logs. The whole presents an appearance both real and natural, and at the same time romantic and picturesque.

Mr. Maselli comes of a prominent family, his brother, Guiseppi Maselli, being a judge in Bari, Italy. He was married in Italy to Vincennes Fasana, and they have five children living, one having died in Mariposa County. They are: Ronato, Ribelle, Mary, Electro and Leo.

JOHN HONGOLA.—Worthy of note among the thrifty and enterprising ranchers located near Parlier, Fresno County, Cal., is John Hongola, a native of Finland, where he first saw the light of day in 1863.

John Hongola was reared and educated in his native country and when about nineteen years of age immigrated to the United States. In 1882 he located in Pennsylvania where he followed various occupations until 1912, when he decided to move westward and seek his fortune in the Golden State. Upon his arrival in California he located in Fresno County.

In 1915 he purchased his present ranch of fifty-five acres of highly improved land which is devoted to the production of grapes, peaches and alfalfa. Thirty acres of his ranch are planted to muscat grapes, fifteen are in peaches and the balance is being set to vines.

John Hongola is an industrious rancher and believes in using up-to-date methods in the operation and cultivation of his splendid ranch. He has erected a fine residence and made many needed improvements on the place since purchasing it.

In 1889, the marriage of John Hongola to Miss Sofia Kolpanen was solemnized. Miss Kolpanen was born in Finland and immigrated to this country in 1886. Mr. and Mrs. Hongola became parents of twelve children. The eldest, John Ivar, served in the regular army in Hawaii fourteen months during 1913-14; he was a member of the National Guard of California in 1916 and saw service on the Mexican border, then enlisted in the United States Army with his regiment and saw seven months' service overseas, going over with the Fortieth Division and being transferred to the Twenty-seventh Division; he was discharged on April 11, 1919; he married Lempi Ellen Gustafson. The other children were: Mary; Hilma; Lydia; Matt, who joined the United States Navy for service in the World War and was on duty aboard the U. S. S. Defiance, doing freighter service; he joined April 19, 1918, and was discharged March 15, 1919; Jack, who entered the United States Navy in 1917 and is still in service, is on the torpedo boat Ericsson and has been in foreign service since December, 1917; Charlie; Rose; Victor; Eino; Santa; and Sulo. Mrs. Hongola died July 10, 1918, aged about fifty years. John Hongola is highly esteemed in his community for his honorable traits of character and has won recognition as a progressive rancher and public-spirited citizen of Fresno County.

G. WIESBROD.—Among the foreign-born residents of Fresno County who has made his influence felt for the betterment of local conditions is G. Wiesbrod, a resident of the Barstow Colony and a native of Russia. He was born at Straub, Samara, November 1, 1885, a son of Chris and Marie (Thompson) Wiesbrod, both born in that same country. The father was a farmer there and, having heard much about the conditions in California from some of his countrymen who had located in Fresno County, he decided to make an investigation for himself and accordingly brought his son here, his wife having died in Russia in 1890. He began ranching near Oleander, succeeded in his efforts and is now living retired in Fresno.

Our subject was the only child of the union of his parents and was educated in the public schools of Fresno, after which he learned the baker's trade with the Model Bakery. After he had mastered it he started the San Benito Bakery, on the avenue of that name, conducted it until he closed the business and went to Madera County and bought sixty acres and engaged in dairying. In February, 1918, he traded his ranch for thirty acres in Barstow Colony and is now raising alfalfa and Thompson seedless grapes and is meeting with deserved success.

Mr. Wiesbrod was married in Fresno in 1907, to Miss Margaret Nilmeier, born in Samara, a daughter of H. P. Nilmeier, of whom mention is made on another page of this work. She was educated in the Fresno schools and has proven herself an able helpmate to her husband. They have a daughter, Helen Margaret. The family are members of the Lutheran Church in Fresno. Mr. Wiesbrod is a member of the California Alfalfa Growers Association and politically supports the candidates of the Republican party.

JOHN AZZARO.—A progressive business man who is justly proud of the success attending the efforts of himself and associates, is John Azzaro, proprietor of the San Francisco Floral Company, at 1201 J Street, Fresno, and the senior member of the firm of Azzaro Brothers. He was born at Genoa, Italy, April 17, 1890, and attended school there up to the age of fifteen. Then with his younger brother, Virgil, he came to the United States and to San Francisco, where P. Matraia was engaged in the floral business. John and Virgil started to learn the business and spent a year and a half in the green-houses and later in the store.

After five years' experience they decided to start in for themselves, and in 1910 they went to Stockton and opened a store on Main Street, where they have been very successful and now own a small business block and cottage in that city. In April, 1913, they opened a floral shop in Fresno, at the corner of J and Fresno Streets, known as the San Francisco Floral Company, and here they have the finest place in Fresno, and do a large business. They saved up five hundred dollars while working in San Francisco, and with this they made their first start. Later, a third brother, Mazimo, came to the United States and he does the buying for the firm. The Fresno store is finely appointed, and the firm carries a fine assortment of potted plants, fancy baskets, etc. The firm took a number of first prizes for floral display at the Fresno District Fair in 1916 and in 1918 as well. In the month of January, 1919, they bought a greenhouse and nursery in South San Francisco. Mazimo Azzaro manages this nursery and continues to buy for the firm, which is now in better position than ever to provide their customers with the choicest goods in their line. They have in constant use two delivery trucks and two touring cars which give added facility to their steadily increasing business.

John Azzaro is a member of Fresno lodge of both the Odd Fellows and the Elks. Virgil is a member of the Red Men and Eagles in Stockton. In 1909, John Azzaro was made an American citizen. He and his brother attended the Washington school in San Francisco, where, in the evening, they learned the English language. The Azzaro Brothers have proven themselves thoroughly patriotic, public-spirited American citizens.

JOSE ZANDUETA.—A young man who is making a success at ranching in Tranquillity is Jose Zanduetta who was born in Erro, Navarra, Spain, May 26, 1881, the son of Martin and Martina (Gonsalo) Zanduetta, who owned a farm where they reared their family. His father died May 3, 1899, while his mother still resides on the home ranch which she still owns. This worthy couple were the parents of eight children, six boys and two girls. Jose, the fourth in order of birth was reared on the farm and went to school as was the general experience of the youth of that region. After his father died he assisted his mother all he could until he was past the age of twenty-two. He had become interested in California and when he was able to arrange to leave his mother he came forthwith to Fresno, arriving October 6, 1903. His funds being low, he immediately sought employment and found it with Antonio Urrutia in Coalinga for five months and then worked for M. Urrutia of Fresno until March, 1907, when he went to Reno, Nev., where he was in the employ of different sheep growers for three years. All this time he gained valuable experience and also studied and learned to read and speak English. In 1910 he returned to Fresno County, working another year for wages. His desire was to own a farm of his own. So in 1911 he purchased twenty acres, a part of his present ranch in Tranquillity. This was raw land but was under the ditch and splendid soil. He leveled and checked it, sowed alfalfa and improved it with suitable farm buildings and set out a small orchard. Aside from this he raised grain for two years in Cantua and then became a partner of the late Joe Yraceburu and leased land at Mendota which they farmed to grain. In 1918 Mr. Yraceburu died and when the season's work and crop was completed the business was settled up and the partnership was dissolved. He then leased land from the San Joaquin Farm and Land Company on which he raised grain. He has added to his original holdings and now owns seventy-one acres which he is improving to alfalfa. His ranch is well kept and he is showing himself a careful and successful farmer.

THOMAS J. REESE.—The junior member of the firm of Reese and Atkins, Thomas J. Reese, while not a native of California may be called a Californian, as he has lived in the Golden State since he was a year old and is endued with characteristic California energy and push.

He is the son of George and Inez (Caldwell) Reese, natives of the state of Tennessee, and was born in Kerr County, Texas, in 1883. His father removed with his family to Fresno County in 1884 and bought forty acres of land two miles south of Fresno. He later homesteaded 160 acres near Delano, Tulare County, and with his sons farmed for fifteen years, also renting additional grain land. He afterwards removed to Selma, Fresno County, where he died in 1911, leaving a widow and four sons, namely: Edward, Arthur, Walter and Thomas. His widow died in 1907.

Thomas J. was educated in the schools of Tulare City and in his first business venture entered into partnership with his brother Walter, in a forty acre dairy ranch at Selma. After three years he disposed of his interest and went to Dinuba, where he purchased ten acres of land and in two years time raised enough watermelons to pay for the property. He then purchased forty acres near Kerman, which he planted to vines, trees and alfalfa, and at the end of one year sold. He next bought ten acres north of Kerman, planted it to vines, built a house upon it, then sold it and came to Fresno. Having a predilection for carpenter work he followed that occupation in his spare time. He built the Dakota school house, the club house and a number of residences in Kerman, and after coming to Fresno worked six months for H. C. Harlow, the contractor, and another six months as journeyman. In 1913 he entered into partnership with O. D. Atkins under the firm name of Reese and Atkins. The firm has met with flattering success during the time they have been operating and have secured some of the largest and most desirable contracts that have been let in Fresno.

Mr. Reese was married December 21, 1911, to Fern A. Hays of South Dakota, the result of the union being one son, Hollis.



Jose Zanduea

GOTTFRID CARLSON.—Born in Nerket, Middle Sweden, on December 13, 1865, Gottfrid Carlson is the son of Carl F., a farmer, on which account Gottfrid was reared to till the soil, but at the same time his education was not neglected. After his school days were over, he followed farming until 1889, when he concluded to emigrate to America and to try his fortune on the Pacific Coast.

On Christmas Day, therefore, he arrived in Fresno, and having friends here, he soon obtained a job in a vineyard in Washington Colony. Afterwards, he worked in various vineyards in the county, and then he went into the lumber camps in the mountains and stayed there for seven years. He was industrious, energetic and frugal, and saved his money; and that means that he began to advance.

Coming down from the mountains, Mr. Carlson rented a farm in the Scandinavian Colony for a year, and in 1899 he bought his present place of sixty acres, in the McKinley School district, five miles northwest of Fresno. This was all raw land and hog-wallow; but nothing daunted, he began improvements to convert it into a fruit farm. To make a living during these years, as well as to continue his payments and to pay interest, he leased a vineyard of eighty acres and thus succeeded in his ambition of owning his place. In time he brought both his vineyard and orchard to a high state of cultivation, yielding satisfactory financial returns, the harvest of 1918 totaling seventy tons of raisins from forty-four acres of vines. On this fine ranch he has erected a large modern residence, as well as the necessary farm buildings.

Mr. Carlson is now the oldest settler in his district, and he has seen all the improvements made from raw land overrun by ground-squirrels and rabbits which took years to exterminate, and necessitated extra replanting of vines and trees to take the place of those destroyed. His interest in land-development continues; but he is also interested in educational matters, and has not only seen to it that his children have had a good education, but he was one of the original trustees of the McKinley School district, and is still a member of the board of trustees. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

At Fresno on April 14, 1898, Mr. Carlson was married to Marie Hagberg, a native of Sweden, having been born in the beautiful city of Stockholm; she came to Fresno in 1893 and from her advent here made many friends. On September 27, 1907, Mr. Carlson was bereaved of her faithful services and companionship, and left the sorrowing father of six children. Inez presides gracefully over her father's household; Olie and Gustof both assist their father to operate the ranch; and there are Signa, Theo and Robert.

STEPHEN M. LAGUDIS.—Determination and perseverance have been great factors in the success attained by Stephen M. Lagudis, one of the founders and proprietors of the Athens Bakery, located at 1253 F Street, Fresno. He is a native of Greece, having been born on the island of Chio, April 3, 1881. His father was a vineyardist and fruit grower, and for three years after Stephen had finished his schooldays, he worked in his father's vineyard and olive orchard. In 1903, Stephen M. Lagudis arrived in New York City and went directly to Wheeling, W. Va., where he was engaged for two years with the American Tinplate Company. Ambitious to succeed he took up the study of English which he found a most important requisite to success in his new home country. Desiring to see more of the new world, he migrated still farther westward and in the fall of 1906 he arrived in San Francisco, Cal., where he secured employment at the Fairmount Hotel, as storekeeper in the supply department. Later he went to Newcastle, Placer County, where he leased a fruit ranch of 120 acres of peaches and plums, and twenty acres planted to table grapes. Unfortunately for Mr. Lagudis, a late frost destroyed the crop that season and he lost all he had invested in the enterprise. In 1911, we find him in the city of Fresno, Cal., where with a

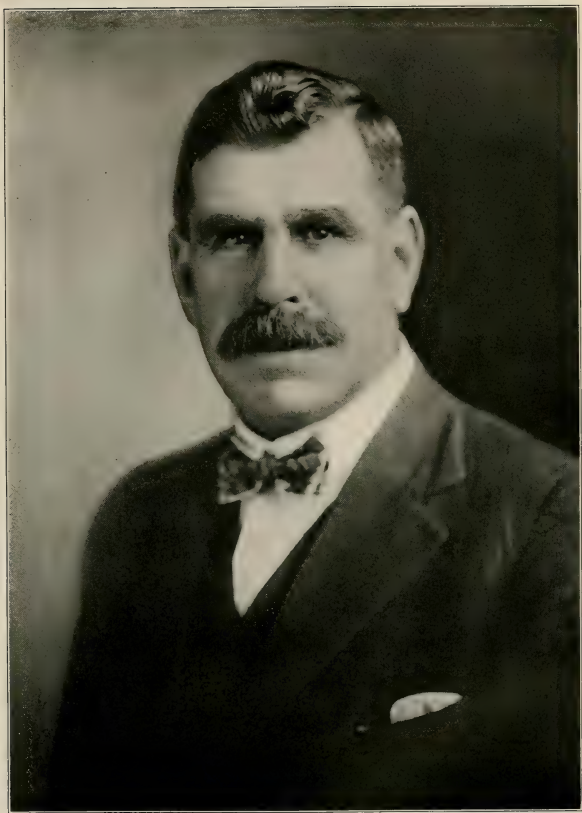
partner, Stephen E. Kluvakis, he opened the South Bakery, at San Benito Avenue and E Street, where they conducted business for about a year. After selling out, in July, 1912, they established the Athens Bakery, at 1253 F Street. Their enterprise has developed into one of the leading bakery establishments in Fresno. When they opened their bakery the output per day was only 150 loaves of bread, as they had but one small oven, but, in the spring of 1918 a new and modern oven was built, which gives the Athens Bakery a capacity output of 10,000 loaves daily, and at present, with two shifts of bakers, they are producing 5,000 loaves daily, their specialty being French bread de luxe. Four delivery wagons are necessary in the conduct of their wholesale and retail business. The Athens Bakery plant is a model one in equipment and sanitation, having the newest sanitary machinery including modern sifting machine and all the latest equipment for sanitary baking, the company having spent \$4,000 on new machinery in 1918. The plant has concrete floors and sanitary shower baths for the bakers. Mr. Lagudis is regarded as one of Fresno's enterprising business men and holds membership in the Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants Association of Fresno, and is also a member of the Master Bakers' Association.

Stephen E. Kluvakis, the business partner of Mr. Lagudis, is also a native of Greece, where he learned the trade of a baker. In 1907, he immigrated to the United States and secured employment as a baker in Chicago. The next year, 1908, Mr. Kluvakis settled in Sacramento, Cal., and in 1911 arrived in Fresno with his present partner where they embarked in the bakery business. The Athens Bakery is regarded as one of the best and most up-to-date in the city and is enjoying a rapidly increasing business which is due to the able and efficient management of its progressive owners.

J. A. POYTRESS.—A splendid example of manhood who is pleased to devote his energy and time towards the development and building up of Fresno County is J. A. Poytress, who was born in Gloucester, England, March 10, 1871, the fourth oldest of a family of seven children born to John and Mary Ann Cooper, farmers in Gloucestershire, England. His father died in 1909 while the mother died in 1910.

Mr. Poytress' father met with reverses, so when ten years of age, J. A. began working out on farms to assist his parents. However, he received a good education in the local schools. He read of the wonders of California and was attracted by the opportunities that awaited young men without capital but willing to work. He selected Fresno, arriving in June, 1891, a stranger in a strange land. He found employment on a farm at Easton and applied himself energetically to his work.

In September, 1893, he was married at Easton to Miss Mary Wells who was born near Birmingham, Worcestershire, England—a daughter of Francis Wells, a well-to-do farmer. After his marriage Mr. Poytress engaged in viticulture and horticulture as well as teaming, a business he has continued ever since. He purchased twenty acres of his present ranch in 1897 and now has eighty-five acres in a body, which he has set and reset to vineyard though a part is in orchard of peaches and apricots. His vineyard is well selected. Thompson seedless and Muscat raisins. He sees it is well cared for and it is the consensus of opinion that he has one of the finest vineyards in the county, his place being located on West Avenue and Lincoln, about seven miles southwest of Fresno. Mr. Poytress also owns a 320-acre ranch one and one-half miles southeast of his home ranch which he devotes to raising alfalfa and dairying, his herd of cows being high-grade Holsteins. He is also raising draft horses, Mr. Poytress being interested in a company that owns an imported Percheron Norman or French draft stallion. He also owns a ranch of sixty acres at Caruthers. He is a firm believer in cooperation and has been a member of the different fruit associations, being an active member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. He is a stockholder, director and treasurer of the Danish Creamery Association, having formerly been president



J. A. Poytress

of it for one year. He has been an active and prominent member of the Fresno County Farm Bureau since its organization as well as one of the original directors. He is the representative of the stock industry of the county and is chairman of the boys' pig club work. He is also a director in the Fresno District Fair Association. Mr. Poytress is intensely interested in advancing the cause of education, having been a member of the American Colony school district for seventeen years, and a trustee of the Washington Union High School for the past eighteen years and the clerk of the board for nine years. Prominent in Y. M. C. A. work he is Fresno County committeeman since the association was organized in Fresno and is chairman of the Boys' Summer Camp Committee.

Mr. Poytress' first wife died in 1908 leaving him a daughter, Eleanor Mary. He was married a second time in Fresno to Miss Annie Hopkins who was born in Gloucester, England, and they have five children: Phyllis, Ethel, Annie Jane, Dorothy Dean, and Roderick. Mr. Poytress is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Easton, being chairman of its Board of Trustees, and was superintendent of the Sunday School for nine years. He visited his parents at the old home in England in 1905 and again in 1908. Fraternally he is a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood at Easton. Full of patriotism for his adopted country Mr. Poytress was active in the different war and liberty loan drives, being local chairman of the Y. M. C. A., Red Cross and United War Work drives, in all of which he did valiant work.

KARL EMERZIAN.—An adopted son of America, Karl Emerzian is a self-made man, successful beyond the average. Born in Armenia on March 30, 1872, his parents were Charles and Anna Emerzian, his father being a merchant in the city of Harpoot. When but thirteen years of age Karl Emerzian landed in New York City, a stranger, to begin his education in the school of experience.

Mr. Emerzian worked for others only eighteen months after coming to the United States, and since then has been engaged in business for himself, his resolution being made when in Worcester, Mass., while running a machine in a wire mill, he accidentally cut off the end of the middle finger of his right hand. He came west and was first in business in Waukegan, Ill., and then in the bakery business in the World's Columbian Exposition, in Chicago, in 1893. In the fall of that year he came to San Francisco, Cal., and started a bakery and restaurant in the Midwinter Fair, until the great railroad strike in 1894 when he lost all he had saved. In September, 1894, he came to Fresno and started a shoe-repairing shop and by the end of a year employed three shoemakers.

In 1897, Mr. Emerzian made the trip to Alaska in a party of sixty who left Edmonton, going across the wilds without a trail and following the compass for six months, they were lost in the Caribou district. The cold was so intense that sixty-five of their ninety pack-horses froze to death in one night. Of the sixty who started only four reached Dawson, with two horses. During the last two months of the journey they had lived entirely on game. The trip took eighteen months. Their trail was afterwards laid out by the Canadian government as a road. As it was near the end of the season, and not wishing to remain in the north another winter, he returned to Seattle by boat and came back to Fresno. He then began fruit-buying, in which he was successful.

Mr. Emerzian was married at Fresno, in 1898, to Lizzie Kallam, and then began ranching. He now owns 640 acres of land in vineyard and orchard, productive and profitable under his management. He has six boys and one girl: Edward, Reuben, Garvez, Arson, Mary, Albert, and Karl, Jr. The Congregational Church receives his support, while politically he is a Republican. He is one of the trustees of the raisin association, and is much interested in that industry. His help can be relied upon in any public enterprise, and he is respected for his integrity and high principles.

JEAN AROSTEGNY.—Jean Arostegny was born at Beyrie, Basses-Pyrenees, France, in 1880, the son of Pierre and Marie (Borderampe) Arostegny, farmer folk in Beyrie, where the father died about twenty years ago, and where the mother is still living on the old farm. To this worthy French couple were born four children, three of whom are living, Jean being the eldest and the only one in the United States. He received a fair education in the local schools of his native place, remaining at home until twenty-one years of age, when being of military age, he obtained permission from the government for leave of absence to go to South America. So in 1901 we find him in Buenos Ayres, Argentina, where he was employed at dairying for about two years. He then came on to San Francisco, Cal., and a few months later came to Firebaugh in the employ of Miller & Lux. After remaining for about one year he returned to France and assisted his mother on the farm for eighteen months. However, he had a longing to return to California. This desire he gratified, and on his arrival located in Fresno. He entered the employment of the Warwick Street Paving Company and continued with them for a period of seven years. The last three years he was their foreman. In 1913 he resigned his position to engage in farming, and purchased the present place of thirty acres on the corner of Nielsen and Hughes Avenue, where he resides with his family. Here he is engaged in viticulture, in which he is making a success.

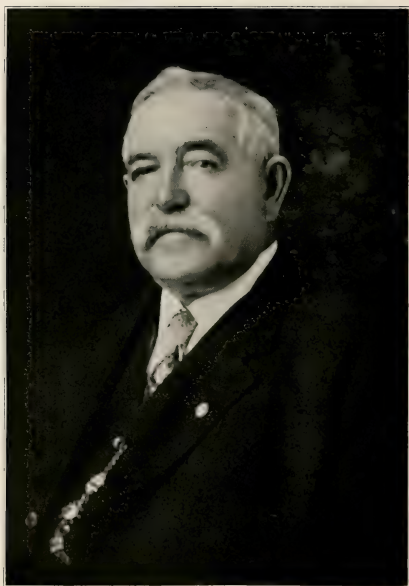
In Fresno occurred the marriage of Mr. Arostegny and Marie Indart, who was also a native of France; and to them have been born two children, Domingo and Marie. The family are members of St. Alphonso's Catholic Church. Mr. Arostegny was made a citizen of the United States in 1916. He is enterprising and public-spirited, believes in cooperation and is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

ARTHUR ARIETA.—Arthur Arieta was born at Calabria, Italy, July 21, 1876, the oldest child of a family of five, born to Saverio and Carmella (Adieko) Arieta, who were farmers in Calabria. The parents migrated with their family to New York City in 1885, where the mother died, and two years later the others came to San Francisco, Cal. The father now resides in Fresno. Of the five children only two are living. Arthur's brother Louis is serving in the United States Army and is now in France, where he was wounded in battle on September 20, 1918.

Arthur Arieta came to San Francisco, Cal., in 1887, and in 1888 to Fresno County, where he immediately went to work on ranches, making his own livelihood. Having accumulated some money and learned the details of grain-growing, he purchased an outfit, leased the McMuller ranch in Fresno County, and followed grain-raising.

Mr. Arieta was married in Fresno to Mrs. Mary (Altro) Sofia, born in Stockton, Cal. Her father, Joseph Altro, came to California in 1859, having crossed the plains on foot the entire distance from New Orleans to California in six months' time. In time he became a farmer at Los Banos, where he resided until his death. Mrs. Arieta's mother was Johanna Pascotza. She also died in Los Banos. Of their five children, Mary was the third.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Arieta resided in their home in Fresno until they purchased the present ranch of twenty acres lying west of Fresno. This place they have improved and brought to a high state of cultivation; and here they are engaged in raising alfalfa and dairying, in which they have been very successful. They have five children born of their marriage, four of whom are living: Flora, Camelle, Rosie, and Mary. Mrs. Arieta was first married to Nicholas Sofia, and by that marriage she had seven children, five of whom are living: John, a resident of Los Banos; Joseph, in the United States Army serving in France; Camelia, Mrs. J. Costello of this county; Angelo, also serving in the United States Army in France; and Sarah, who resides at home. Mr. Arieta is a stockholder in the Danish Creamery. He is very enterprising and public-spirited man, and is ably assisted in his work by his wife. Both are well liked and highly esteemed.



Juan Camino

JUAN CAMINO.—Pastoral occupations are imbued with a charm peculiarly their own, and this is particularly true of this occupation when it is in combination with old world life found in the country of Northern Spain.

Juan Camino, one of Fresno County's early settlers and sheep men, was born in the northern part of that picturesque country, coming as a Christmas gift to his parents, December 25, 1857. Brought up and educated on the farm, he herded sheep for his father, a sheep raiser, until 1881, when he came to America and arrived in Fresno with a small amount of money. He continued the occupation of sheep herding in Fresno County until 1885, when he bought a few sheep with money he had saved and engaged in business with his brother Domingo. The flock increased until at one time the brothers owned 7,000 sheep and some cattle. They ranged the sheep all over the county, also drove them into Mono and Inyo Counties for feed. Domingo sold his interest to his brother and returned to his native country, Juan continuing in the sheep raising business until 1904 when he sold out and retired from active business life. A self-made man, Mr. Camino has acquired considerable property interests in Fresno County. He is the owner of 1,500 acres of grazing land near Coalinga, also a five-acre peach orchard north of Fresno, as well as houses and lots in Fresno.

In 1895 he was married to Grace Etchegoin, a native of France, and they have four children: Marie, Raymond, Micaela and Mary Jane. Mr. Camino is a well-known and influential member of the Catholic Church.

GEORGE J. VOENES.—The owner of the "Goodfellow's Grill," at 1034 I Street, one of the most popular cafes in Fresno, was born in the historic island of Samos, a Greek possession, on July 18, 1881. He has become one of the leading members of the Greek colony of Fresno County, and as such is influential while reflecting great credit on the land of his birth.

George J. Voenes was educated in the common and high schools of his home district, and then learned the trade of a mechanic, which he followed for some time in his native country. In 1898 he came to America, and after a short time in New York, moved west to San Francisco, where he became a chef and learned each variety of cooking. He then ran cafes in Woodland, Oroville and Redding, and next returned to San Francisco, where he had a cafe on Seventh Street. This was burned out, however, in the fire of April, 1906, a misfortune that caused him to move to Vallejo, where he remained for six years, running a cafe there. During this time, he took a trip back home and traveled through Europe.

In 1912 he located in Fresno and established the Goodfellow's Grill, a modern, first-class place, especially popular with business men.

Two years after he had thus settled here, Mr. Voenes married Georgia Steele, of Fresno, daughter of a pioneer family, by whom he has had one son, John, a native of Fresno. A self-made man, George J. Voenes is a charter member and vice-president of the Hellenic Progressive Society of Fresno.

MENOTTI ANNIGONI.—An Italian-American chef who is the proprietor of the popular cafe in Fresno, the only institution of its kind in all the San Joaquin Valley and one of the best restaurants in the entire state of California, is Menotti Annigoni, who owns and conducts the Fior d'Italia Cafe, at No. 1032 H Street, opposite the Southern Pacific Railway station. He was born in Modena, Italy, on May 19, 1883, was reared in that country, and there, at an early age, took up the science and art of cooking. For a while he ran cafes of his own in both Marseilles and Paris, and for a year he had another cafe in Tulon, also a well-known French town. From 1900 to 1906 he conducted a high-class cafe in Milan, Italy, and the following year he arrived in New York City. There he was chef in leading hotels and cafes, cooking in both the French and Italian styles. He arrived in San Francisco in 1910, and soon became manager of Coppas' famous restaurant, where he had full charge of the dining-room for three and a half years. He was also chef in the Palace and St. Francis hotels, and at Burgess & Franke's famous

old Poodle Dog cafe in Busch Street. In each of these places his fame grew as one of the most renowned cooks that ever came to the shores of the Pacific.

Early in 1916 Mr. Annigoni moved across the state to Fresno and took a lease of his present place, which he named the Fior d'Italia Cafe. Step by step he built up a reputation for the best possible Italian and French cooking, being assisted by both an Italian and a French chef. The former is a native of Italy and has cooked in the finest of cafes; and his French assistant is equally experienced. Notwithstanding this expert help, however, Mr. Annigoni gives personal supervision to the cooking of all foods served, and for many of the Italian dishes uses his own recipes.

As an indication of the preeminence enjoyed by this popular Italian caterer, it may be mentioned that he took the first prize for the best decorated table at the Fresno District Fair in October, 1918, winning the same against four other competitors. He has had the walls and ceilings of the Fior d'Italia decorated with Italian landscape views, executed in oil paint by two famous Italian artists, Constantino Faggioni and Peter Valentini, the former of whom did the decorating in the Bank of Italy Building and the New Liberty Theater in Fresno.

Mr. Annigoni is a member of the Geneva Association of Chefs and Waiters, one of the most celebrated culinary orders in the world, and he also belongs to the Union of Waiters and Cooks of New York City, San Francisco and Fresno.

While in the East, Mr. Annigoni was fortunate in his marriage, at Long Island City, to Margaret Fracchia, of Italy; and one son has blessed the union—Armondo by name. Mrs. Annigoni shares in both her husband's ambitions and popularity, and contributes constantly to his success.

HENRY SCHNEIDER.—An enterprising viticulturist and horticulturist, Henry Schneider is well posted in that branch of agriculture, as his productive vineyard and orchards give testimony. He was born in Guges, Samara, Russia, August 21, 1888, and his father, George Schneider, was a farmer in that country and brought the family to Fresno in 1901. Here he engaged in ranching at Rolinda, where he bought a forty-acre ranch and cultivated the land until his retirement to Fresno in later life, where he now lives. The mother, Annie Felzing before her marriage, died in Fresno about 1913, and six children had been born to this worthy couple.

The youngest child in the family, Henry Schneider was brought up on the home farm and received his education in the public schools of that country. After the family came to Fresno, in 1901, he assisted his father to care for the family and helped get a start by working out in vineyards. He then helped his father improve their own ranch until he reached twenty-one years, when he started out in life for himself, purchasing a twenty-acre ranch at Rolinda and improving it to vineyard, peaches and alfalfa. In the meantime, with his brother George he purchased forty acres of raw land in the Barstow district, and leveling it, set it out to Thompson grapes. Later they sold this property and Mr. Schneider devoted his entire time to his Rolinda ranch, which he operated until 1914, when he sold out and purchased his present twenty-acre ranch; this he also improved from the raw land and now has fifteen acres in Thompsons and the balance in apricot orchard.

The marriage of Mr. Schneider, in Fresno, July 2, 1908, united him with Miss Lena Pretzer, born in Perrin Colony, and daughter of Jack Pretzer, a brother of Henry Pretzer, who were early settlers of Fresno County, coming here in the eighties. Her father was a rancher and vineyardist here but now is engaged in ranching at Chowchilla. Mrs. Schneider was educated in the public schools of Fresno County. They have three children: Lydia; John; and Harry. The family attends the Lutheran Church. Mr. Schneider is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and a man of progressive ideas and good judgment.

PAUL ADOOR.—What America, and particularly California, has done for those who have started with decided handicaps in the overcrowded, worked-out Old World and have had, as their best assets, good health, hope and determination to win, and a willingness and desire to work, is well illustrated in the life history of Paul Adoor, the prominent viticulturist of the Malaga district. He was born in far-off Assyria on May 18, 1872, and in that industrious land learned the baker's trade. After coming to the United States, however, he learned the shoemaking trade and worked in factories in Milford, Salem, Brockton, Lynn and Athol, Mass. In 1900 he came West to California and Fresno, and with his brother Barsam followed raisin culture. Meeting with no success, after eighteen months he returned to Massachusetts and for another five years made shoes again. The year 1908, however, found him back in beautiful, sunny Fresno, where, with his brother Barsam, he engaged in the bakery business on the west side of the town. When they disposed of their business, the brothers bought a forty-acre vineyard. This was situated in the Malaga district, on North Avenue, and was distinguished from the first for the rich quality of the soil. The various qualities characteristic of the Adoor brothers have helped them to make a real success of this venture; and now Paul Adoor, with his brothers, Barsam and Charles, is part owner of the Adoor business block on F Street.

While at Chelsea, Mass., on March 3, 1908, Mr. Adoor was made an American citizen, and four years later he was married to Mary Kooyungian, a native of Turkey. One daughter, Elizabeth, has blessed this happy marriage.

Any state or county would have reason to be proud of such citizens as these enterprising and high-principled brothers of whom we here write—Barsam, Paul and Charles; and Fresno County welcomes Mr. Adoor and his associates to the unrivaled land of opportunity.

JOHN CHIODI.—John Chiodi was born at San Benedetto del Tronto, in the Province of Ascoli Piceno, in eastern Italy, January 6, 1876, and began as clerk in a mercantile store at the tender age of nine years. Later, he engaged in the mercantile business for himself, and in 1903, when twenty-seven years of age, came to the United States in quest of a larger field of activity. For one year he clerked in a store just outside of the city of Chicago, Ill., and in 1905 came to San Francisco, Cal., where he was in the employ of the Italian Swiss Colony Company for a period of one and a half years. He afterward followed the fishing business on the Sacramento River in Solano County, buying fish for the San Francisco market.

In 1909 Mr. Chiodi came to Fresno and opened a billiard hall and cigar store at No. 1513 Fresno Street, where he remained until 1914, when he opened his present wholesale and retail cigar store and billiard hall at No. 1147 G Street. He is a prosperous and successful business man of Fresno, a leader in the local Italian colony of Fresno County, and enjoys a wide and well-deserved personal popularity among his countrymen. He has been of untold assistance to his fellow-countrymen, working for their interests and representing them in many important events taking place in the city.

Mr. Chiodi was one of the organizers of the Italian Division of the Order of Owls, No. 1010, of Fresno, and since the inception of the order in Fresno in 1911 has served as its president. He is also a member of the Eagles. He was chairman of the Italian committee at the celebration of Britain Day in Fresno on December 7 and 8 and was an associate member of the legal advisory board on the Draft Board of Fresno County. During the late war he did his share in the purchase of Liberty Bonds.

Mrs. Chiodi was in maidenhood Emma Giordani, also a native of Italy. Mr. and Mrs. Chiodi reside in their own home at 938 Fresno Street. They are the parents of six children—Emil, Matilda, Frances, Enrica, May and Victoria, by name.

CLAUD D. CORRICK.—Agriculture has been the life occupation of Claud D. Corrick, a native son of Fresno County, born on August 8, 1888, on the home ranch owned by his father, the late Lewis C. Corrick. The elder Corrick was born in West Virginia and followed farming all his life. In 1870 he came to California and became identified with the life of Fresno County by taking up a homestead claim and proving up on it. To this he added from time to time until he was owner of 700 acres, which he devoted to farming and stock-raising. He was married in Fresno County to Mary Cobb, a representative of an old pioneer family of California. Lewis C. Corrick died in 1901, leaving a widow and three children.

Claud D. Corrick was educated in the Fort Washington public school until he was fourteen. He was reared on the home ranch and became familiar with the more advanced methods of farming and with the stock business for his father had inaugurated up-to-date machinery and implements on his Fresno County ranch. When his father died, although a mere boy, Claud D. took charge of the work and assisted his mother in managing the affairs left by Mr. Corrick. After he was old enough he leased the place and carried on general farming and the stock business with a goodly share of success, his grain, cattle and hogs always finding a ready market and at good prices. With his savings he purchased a tract of forty acres which he improved to alfalfa for a home place and to which he added other purchases until he owns 500 acres which he plans to put in vines, figs and prunes and engage in viticulture and horticulture.

In February, 1914, in Oakland, Mr. Corrick was united in marriage with Miss Arvilla Martin, who is a native daughter of Fresno County. Her father, Wm. F. Martin, was a forty-niner, now making his home near Friant. Mr. Corrick is a member of Clovis Lodge, K. of P. In all movements for the advancement of the county's interests, Mr. Corrick gladly lends his aid and is a booster for the county of his birth.

FRESNO DAIRY.—Fresno is notable for the number of its well-established and well-managed business enterprises, among which especial mention is made of the "Fresno Dairy," brought into existence in February, 1916, by L. Patti and R. Stolberg, and now owned by Mr. Patti and C. Pagani.

Lawrence Patti, the founder of the dairy, was born on a dairy farm in the vicinity of Milan, Italy, on September 26, 1889. He attended the public schools and later worked for his father, thereby getting a thorough knowledge of the dairy, and the dairy business, including the making of butter. Such are the proverbial methods with respect to thoroughness of the Italians that when he had finished his apprenticeship, he had mastered every detail of the field.

Attracted by the stories of opportunity in California, Mr. Patti, in 1912, came to America and located at Stockton, in San Joaquin County, where he went to work for the Valley Creamery Company. He was first put into the testing department, and then he was made foreman of the plant. So successful was he that in February, 1916, he came to Fresno and opened a branch of the Valley Creamery Company, calling it the Fresno Dairy. He took into partnership with him R. Stolberg; but in September, 1917, he bought the latter out and made C. Pagani his partner.

When Mr. Patti married, he selected Cesina Pagani of Italy as his wife.

Mr. Pagani, the other member of the firm was also born on a farm, but near Piacenza, Italy, on July 6, 1881. He attended the country schools, and as his family were grape growers and wine-makers, he followed that line, and later conducted a wholesale and retail wine store in Milan.

Selling out, however, he came to America in 1913, making straight for San Joaquin County, and there he worked on ranches, and later entered the employ of the Valley Creamery Company. From there he came to Fresno, in September, 1917, to become a partner in the Fresno Dairy, and since that period he has had a very creditable share in maintaining one of the most representative and important concerns in Central California.



J. D. Corlho

JOSEPH A. COELHO.—One of the pioneer sheep men of Fresno County, Joseph A. Coelho, has demonstrated the possibilities for advancement in this section of the state for a man whose sole aids in the struggle were a steady application and the determination to reach success. Born in Flores Island, Azores Islands, April 15, 1862, he was raised on a farm. In 1881, when nineteen years old, he came to the United States, and after his arrival, in Boston, Mass., came direct to San Francisco, having been fourteen days crossing the water, and fourteen days by train from Boston, slow travel compared to the time made in these days.

When Mr. Coelho landed in San Francisco his capital was just four dollars. He came to Fresno and secured work in Helm Colony, herding sheep on plains and mountains. Later he went to Knights Ferry and worked on a ranch and herded sheep at Modesto. From there he went to Stockton and there worked for George F. Smith on his cattle and sheep ranch for five years. He saved enough money to buy a small band of sheep at Madera, later sold them and bought another band at Merced; these he sold and bought sheep again at Madera. In 1889 he started in the sheep business in Fresno County on the west side, and continued his operations until 1915, having as many as 10,000 sheep at one time, and sold wool as low as four cents per pound.

Mr. Coelho is now a large land owner in Fresno County. He homesteaded 160 acres, ten miles north of Herndon, and bought 160 acres adjoining, using this as pasture land and sheep camp. He is the owner of one section three miles west of Mendota, planted to barley; eighty acres three miles south of Fresno, planted to alfalfa; 260 acres near Kerman, in alfalfa; 240 acres west of Kearney Park, pasture land; besides which agricultural land he owns business property in Fresno, consisting of a brick block on I Street, near Fresno; nine city lots, and his home at 481 Calaveras Avenue.

Mr. Coelho married, in 1903, Angelina Martin, also a native of the Azores Islands. Her father, Antone Martin, was a '49er and mined near Folsom for a short time, after which he returned to his native land, married and raised a family of eight children, and returned to California in 1893, first locating in Hayward, Alameda County, and later in San Benito County, coming from there to Fresno, where his death occurred. Mr. and Mrs. Coelho are the parents of one son, Louis Joseph. Fraternally Mr. Coelho is a member of the I. D. E. S. of Fresno. A man of strict integrity of character, and who has risen to a position of affluence by his own unaided efforts, he is an example to the youth of the land as to what one man can accomplish by honest labor and business acumen.

HENRY RUDOLPH, JR.—A scientific vineyardist, who has improved a valuable ranch while forging ahead to substantial success, is Henry Rudolph, Jr., who first settled in Fresno in the early nineties. He was born at Samara, near Saratof, Russia, on November 18, 1873, the son of Henry Rudolph, a grain-farmer who came out to California in 1892. He engaged in viticulture and continued in that field until he retired. Now, at the age of 79, he resides at Fresno with his good wife, who was Catherine Sieler before her marriage. They had eleven children, eight of whom came to Fresno; and seven are now living.

Henry, the second youngest, was educated at the public schools and brought up on a farm until he was seventeen. Then, on his birthday, he left Saratof for the United States, being the first of the brothers to come to Fresno, although a brother August came soon after. A month later he landed in Fresno, and the next morning went to work on Shields Avenue. When he was able, he improved a farm and followed farm work. He bought twenty acres on Walnut and North Avenues, where he had a vineyard and orchard, and next he purchased forty acres on Shields and Chittenden Avenues, in the Arizona Colony. He made a fine peach orchard and Sultana vineyard there, farming it for three years; after which he sold the property and located in Fresno.

With H. P. Steitz he established a grocery on F Street, at the end of the town, and for a couple of years they did business under the name of Steitz & Rudolph; then he sold his interest to Conrad Kinsel. In 1914 he bought his present place of sixty acres in Vinland, at the corner of Madera and Dakota Avenues, and there were twenty acres of Thompson seedless, and eight acres of peaches; and he improved the rest by setting out Thompson vines. Now he is active in the California Associated Raisin Company, and the California Peach Growers, Inc.

At Fresno, Mr. Rudolph was married to Miss Katie Schwabenland, a native of Russia, and they have five children: Emma, Mrs. Clarence Kutter of Vinland; Henry L., with his father; William, with the California Associated Raisin Company; and Carl and Freda, at home. Mr. Rudolph is a Republican in national politics, and first and last he is an American.

EDWARD BRENNAN.—A successful business man of Coalinga, who is proprietor of the Premier Creamery, is Edward Brennan, who was born at Ballinamuck P. O., County Longford, Ireland, April 22, 1884, a son of Timothy and Margaret (Mellon) Brennan, farmers in his native place. Of the ten children born to this worthy couple eight are living, of whom Edward is the eldest. The others are Margaret, Mrs. McGuire; and Mona, Mrs. Ginty, both of Coalinga; John, who is in the United States Army; Patrick, in the United States Army serving in France; and Bernard, Martin, and Katie, still at home with their parents.

After completing the local schools, Edward Brennan spent three years working in the coal mines in Scotland, and then, after a brief visit home, in May, 1908, he migrated to California. He was in the employ of the Mammoth Copper Mines in Shasta County and the copper mine at Bully Hill, also in Shasta County, until February, 1910. He then came to Coalinga and entered the employ of the Inca Oil Company, continuing with them four or five years. Afterwards he was in the employ of different oil companies till he quit to engage in business for himself.

In September, 1917, Mr. Brennan started the Premier Creamery, where he is engaged in the wholesale and retail of milk, cream, butter, and ice cream. The creamery is located on Fifth Street and includes a modern soda fountain. He makes his deliveries with an automobile, and everything is conducted according to the most modern and sanitary methods.

Mr. Brennan was married in Coalinga to Miss Annie McMonigal, who was born in Lanockshire, Scotland, and two children have been born to them: Margaret and Mary. Fraternally, Mr. Brennan is a member of the Eagles.

NIELS HANSEN NIELSEN.—A young man who is making a success as a farmer is Niels Hansen Nielsen, who was born in Esbjerg, Jylland, Denmark, on August 25, 1890, the third youngest of a family of eight children born to Christian P. and Adriatte (Marcersen) Nielsen. The father was a carpenter, mason and plasterer, one of the first to help build up the town of Esbjerg, and continued as a contractor and builder there until 1896, when they entered the mercantile business in Esbjerg, in which the father and mother are still actively engaged.

Niels Hansen Nielsen received a good education in the public schools at Esbjerg, and when fourteen years of age was apprenticed as a blacksmith. He worked at the trade there until seventeen years of age. Deciding then to try his lot in California, in May, 1907, he came to Fresno. The first year he worked on a ranch, and then was employed at the blacksmith trade in the lumber mills at Shaver, in the mountains, for two seasons, after which he worked on a ranch again at Clovis for seven months. Next he worked at his trade for Arnsberg and Petersen for a short time, when he quit to enter the employ of Alex Jacobsen as a waiter in his restaurant for a year. Then

he was employed on a ranch at Burrel awhile, and next in a cigar store in Fresno over winter. In the spring of 1915 he went to San Francisco and there was employed as a waiter for six months during the Fair, after which he again returned to Fresno and found employment on the ranch of C. S. Pierce for about seven months. During this time he was married in Fresno to Miss Metha Jensen Holmsgaard, who was born in Jylland, Denmark, and after completing her education, came to Oakland, Cal., and later to Fresno.

After his marriage, Mr. Nielsen ran the Spencer ranch for about seven months. In 1916 he accepted his present position as manager of the C. P. Hansen ranch of 160 acres west of Fresno, which he has improved from the raw land, leveling and checking it, and sowing it to alfalfa. They have installed a pumping plant and have already a fine stand of about sixty acres of alfalfa. Having had much experience in the leveling and checking of land for growing alfalfa, Mr. Nielsen understands the best methods for accomplishing results in farming to this crop. He has made it a study and is deeply interested in his work.

Mr. and Mrs. Nielsen have two children, May Catherine and Evelyn Anna. Politically, Mr. Nielsen believes in the principles of the Democratic party.

JOHN A. DAWSON.—The splendid development of our Western States is due to the sterling character and energy of the men who came here as emigrants from other states. A citizen of this type is John A. Dawson, who was born in Iowa County, Wis., May 1, 1846. His father was William Dawson and his mother was Ann (Ainsley) Dawson. They came to Wisconsin from England in 1845. During the Civil War the father served in the Second Wisconsin Cavalry and died of yellow fever, in August, 1862.

There were six children in the family, of whom the subject of this sketch was the oldest. He received his education in the public schools, and later carried on the farming on the home place, until 1891. He then came to Fresno County, Cal., and purchased eighty acres of a stubble field. His first step in its development was the planting of alfalfa and an orchard and vineyard of forty-five acres. He has had splendid success in this enterprise and now has a fine productive orchard.

In 1869, Mr. Dawson was married to Mary Ann Porter, who was also a native of Iowa County, Wis., born October 22, 1845. Eight children have been born to them, and six are living: Frederick T., a rancher of Clovis; William L., a rancher near Clovis; Nellie, wife of J. W. Sharer, also resides near Clovis; Leonard P., also of Clovis; Frances, Mrs. L. D. Reyburn, of near Clovis; and Robert C., at home.

Mr. Dawson is the agent for the Scandinavian Mutual Protective Fire Insurance Association, and he is also appraiser in this district for the Company. His faithful wife died October 21, 1913, at sixty-eight years of age. Mr. Dawson is prominent in the First Presbyterian Church, in which he is a ruling elder; he is superintendent of the Jefferson Sunday School, and served as trustee of the Clovis High School board for one term. Mr. Dawson made his first trip to California in 1882, subsequently spending a second winter in the Golden State before he located here, and since then he has made three trips back to Wisconsin, thus crossing the mountains and plains eleven times.

BARSAM ADOOR.—A prominent raisin-grower who not only is interested in the growth of Fresno County and has great confidence in the future of this part of the Golden State, but has himself contributed toward the development of some of its most important interests, is Barsam Adoor, who lives in the Malaga district. He was born in Assyria on September 15, 1870, the son of a baker, under whom he learned the baker's trade. There were four sons in the family, and three of them came to the United States and are now in Fresno County.

It was in 1891 that Barsam came to America and located in Massachusetts, where he worked for eight years in shoe factories at Milford, Brockton and Boston. In 1899 he came West to Fresno County and rented the Loleta Vineyard, five miles east of Selma, consisting of 160 acres, and there he also had a packing house. For five years he followed raising-growing, but with little success. In 1904 he opened a pool hall and cigar stand on K Street, and after four years he sold out and started the New England Bakery on the west side of town, taking into partnership with him his brother Paul. In this undertaking he was successful, and he kept at it for six years. Selling out in 1913, he and Paul bought a forty-acre vineyard on North Avenue in the Malaga district, where they raised Thompson seedless and muscat grapes; the returns happily being such that the vineyard now yields from three to five thousand dollars' profit a year.

Barsam, Paul and the third brother, Charles, own a business block erected in 1900 on F Street, and Charles owns a twenty-acre vineyard on Ventura Avenue.

On August 4, 1914, Mr. Adoor was married to Anna Donabed, also a native of Assyria; and now they have one promising son, Sargon.

GUSTAV OLSEN.—Gustav Olsen, more familiarly known as Gus Olsen, is a native of Holmestrand, Norway, having been born in that country September 22, 1880. When five years of age he came with his parents to San Francisco, Cal. He was educated in the public schools of San Francisco and Oakland, and started to learn the trade of a tailor, but soon abandoned it to devote his attention to sign painting, which he has followed for the past twenty-two years. He was in the employ of M. S. Moe, and learned his trade with the leading sign painter of San Francisco, M. Stein, for whom he worked eight years. He then engaged in business for himself at Eighth and Market Streets, San Francisco, with a partner by the name of Quane, under the firm name of Quane & Olsen. After ten months the firm was dissolved and Mr. Olsen went to Chicago, Ill., where he worked for the sign painter Bornhoft, for a short time. Later he traveled through the East.

Mr. Olsen made his first trip to Fresno in 1902, at which time he was in the employ of Stein & Company, and he afterwards made frequent trips to the city. He was in the employ of J. F. Gallmann of Fresno for a while. He was married in this city in 1908 and has made this his home ever since. His present place of business is located at 1831 Fresno Street. He maintains the largest sign-painting plant between San Francisco and Los Angeles, covering a large field of operations in his work, and is prepared to do work in any part of the San Joaquin Valley. He does the major portion of the work for the Standard Oil Company and the Associated Oil Company, as well as the work of the California Associated Raisin Company in the Valley. In the busiest season he employs nine men. He is a member of the Fresno Sign Painters' Union and was one of the organizers of the San Francisco Sign Painters' Union.

The possessor of an unusually fine baritone voice, Mr. Olsen is well known in Fresno as a singer of merit. He studied vocal music under Professor Rowlands of Oakland and Professor Greven of San Francisco, and also with Don Pardee Riggs of Fresno. He has sung in most of the churches in Fresno, and at present is soloist in the Christian Church of that city, of which he is a member. He is also a member of the Male Chorus, and has done a great deal of solo work in Fresno County in singing for the Red Cross and Belgian Relief work, etc.

Mr. Olsen married Mrs. Alma Curren, a native of Canada. The children born of their union are: Marie, a native of Oakland, Cal.; Elizabeth, who died at the age of three months in 1910; and Virginia and Alma, native daughters of Fresno. By her first marriage, Mrs. Olsen had one child, Donald, born at Manchester, N. H., who lives with Mr. and Mrs. Olsen.

H. A. DALLKE.—The world is looking today for men of efficiency, men who not only know how to accomplish, but who do accomplish the duties assigned them and are not afraid to do even more than their allotment. Such a man is H. A. Dallke, the special agent of the Standard Oil Company, at Reedley, Cal. Since 1915 he has had full charge of the distributing office at Reedley.

H. A. Dallke was born in the state of Kansas, on May 27, 1883, the son of Henry and Augusta Dallke, whose family consisted of four children, the subject of this sketch being the second child. He was reared and educated in the state of Kansas.

When Mr. Dallke reached young manhood he exhibited a preference for the mercantile life, which he followed for a number of years. His first experiences in this line were gained in Kansas, afterwards in Oklahoma. In 1912 he migrated to California and secured employment with the Standard Oil Company and for three years drove a tank wagon. His fidelity to the company's best interests and his ability for assuming a more responsible position were soon recognized and he was advanced to the responsible post he now occupies.

Mr. Dallke was united in marriage with Miss Tena Summerfield, in 1904. This union was blessed with two daughters, Elsie and Verna. In 1915, Mrs. Dallke passed away. After her demise an aunt of the children came to reside in the home and assume the responsibility of rearing the girls. The second marriage of Mr. Dallke was solemnized in 1916, when he was united with Miss Anna Summerfield, a sister of his first wife.

That Mr. Dallke's efficiency and trustworthiness, in the transactions of the business of the corporation are meeting with the approval of the officers is best evidenced by his continuance in the position at Reedley. His friends predict for him a prosperous business career.

GUS. CHRISTOPHER.—The acknowledged leader of the Greek Colony at Fresno, Gus. Christopher, is one of the city's enterprising and successful business men. The high esteem in which he is held in the community is best evidenced by the fact of his being chosen as an ex-officio member of the executive committee to represent the Greek nation at the great celebration of "Britain Day" held in the City of Fresno, on December 7-8, 1918. Gus. Christopher is a native of Greece, born at Eperos, May 22, 1882. After leaving school he was for six years engaged in mining for iron, copper and silver, in Greece and France.

Possessed with a desire to seek his fortune in America, where so many of his countrymen had gained success in various lines of endeavor, Mr. Christopher emigrated to the United States in 1902, coming as far West as Spokane, Wash., where he entered the hotel and cafe business, subsequently locating at Bellingham, in the same state, where he was engaged in the bakery business. In 1905 Mr. Christopher came to San Francisco, Cal., where he conducted a cafe and continued in business there until 1910, when he bought the Pleasanton Cafe, in Fresno, and at once remodeled, refitted and improved it to such an extent that it was regarded afterwards as the finest modern cafe in the city. He continued to own and operate the Pleasanton Cafe until January, 1915. Gus. Christopher is possessed of keen foresight and splendid business management, and the concensus of opinion among his friends and business associates is, that in all he undertakes he is eminently successful. In 1914 he purchased the Bijou Photo Theatre, 1137 J Street, Fresno, and since he has operated the theatre has remodeled it, made many needed improvements, installed a new ventilating system, two "Powers" operating machines, electric piano, and a new screen. The Bijou is now considered the best short-show theatre in the state. Mr. Christopher has demonstrated his good business judgment by investing his money in Fresno realty. Among his holdings are two lots at Van Ness and Stanislaus Streets, where he con-

templates erecting apartment houses; and the Parker Lyons residence on Van Ness and Calaveras Streets, which he recently purchased as an investment. In 1910 he bought a forty-acre ranch in the Perrin Colony. For two years he raised tobacco on this ranch, but in 1913 planted it to figs.

Fraternally, Mr. Christopher was made a Mason in Fresno Lodge, No. 247, F. & A. M., at Fresno, in 1912. He has taken all degrees up to and including the Mystic Shrine. He was the founder and is the president of the local Greek Society, "Hellenic Progressive Society," an organization conducted along educational lines for the promotion of friendship and cooperation between Americans and Greeks. George Voenes is vice-president; N. D. Nitsos, secretary, and S. M. Lagudis, treasurer. Mr. Christopher is a very progressive and prosperous citizen is highly respected among his large circle of friends.

EUGENE ROUGNY.—The birthplace of Eugene Rougny was Gap, Hautes-Alpes, France, and the date of birth November 8, 1884. His father, Casimir, was a farmer, and Eugene early learned the rudiments of farming as carried on in his native place, receiving a good education in the public schools. When twenty-one years of age he entered the French army, serving in an Alpine Regiment called the "Blue Devils," he being in the Fourteenth Battalion. After eighteen months' service he was honorably discharged, as corporal.

In 1908 Mr. Rougny came to California, arriving in Fresno, December 25th of that year. He was employed in the lumber yards of the Fresno Flume & Land Company, of Clovis, then in Pine Ridge, logging next, after a few months, with the Shaver mill. He then returned to Clovis and leased a vineyard for three years.

Mr. Rougny was married, near Malaga, on April 6, 1918, to Mrs. Anais (Corbeil) Blanc, also born at Gap, she being the daughter of Lucien Corbeil, a farmer who came to California over thirty years ago and who now resides in Fresno. Mrs. Rougny came to Fresno County in 1899, attending the public schools in Fresno. Her first marriage was to Marius Blanc, who came from France to Fresno in 1896 and was employed by the Fresno Flume and Land Company as flume-herder, until in 1914 when he engaged in viticulture on a twenty-three-acre ranch near Malaga, where he died on November 14, 1916, aged thirty-seven, leaving, besides his widow, four children: Henry, Albert, Marius, and Adrian.

Mr. and Mrs. Rougny own and operate their ranch, which is devoted to raising grapes and alfalfa. They have one child, Leon. They are members of the California Associated Raisin Company.

GUSTAVE LEPLAT.—The genealogy of the Leplat family is traced back to the historic city of Lille, France, where Gustave was born of Belgian parents, January 13, 1847. His early education was in French and was obtained in a boarding school at Brussels, after which he attended a military, or regimental school, and six years he was a member of the Ninth Infantry Belgium Army. Gustave Leplat was so proficient in the art of fencing that he became an instructor in the army. He also studied engineering, developing his talents along the lines of construction and engineering work to such a high degree that in 1865 he was sent to Antwerp, Belgium, to build fortifications and helped in the construction of forts in other parts of that country. After finishing his term of service in the Belgium Army, Mr. Leplat accepted a position in the government office at Brussels.

In 1880 he emigrated to America and having learned the trade of a painter and interior decorator while in Belgium, he was engaged in that line of work in Chicago, Ill., and in the year 1883 moved farther westward, locating for a while in Los Angeles, Cal., where he followed his trade. On April 6, 1891, Gustave Leplat arrived in Fresno, Cal., and since that time has continued to reside there and so successfully conducted his business of painting and artistic interior decorating. Mr. Leplat is a natural artist and his superior taste in interior designing has gained for him an enviable reputation

and has been an important factor in the building-up of his extensive business. The name Leplat stands for the latest and most artistic in interior decorations. In addition to some of the finest residences in the city of Fresno, his work is to be seen in the following public buildings: Winchell Block, Catholic Church, Congregational Church, and C Street schoolhouse; his work also extends throughout the county, among the homes of prosperous ranchers and to Madera and other valley cities.

Mr. Leplat's success in business has made possible his splendid realty holdings in the city of Fresno, consisting of his home at 227 Valeria Street, a two-story house on I Street, and two lots near the Normal School. He is a loyal American, having become a naturalized citizen while living in Los Angeles. Fraternally he is a thirty-second degree Mason, a member of Fresno Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M.; Fresno Consistory Scottish Rite and is a member of Islam Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S., San Francisco. For thirty-two years he has been an honored member of the Knights of Pythias of which he is a past officer. He is also a charter member of the Painter's Union of Fresno, and past secretary and treasurer of the organization. His first marriage was in Belgium where he was united with Josephine Landeloos, who died there.

In 1891 at Fresno Gustave Leplat was married to Mrs. Mary Lee, a native of Paris, France, but reared in California, having immigrated here with her parents in 1852, coming around Cape Horn to San Francisco. Of his first union two children grew up: Frank, of Los Angeles; and Mrs. Jeannie Roderick, who died February 3, 1919 in San Francisco. Some years ago Mr. Leplat made a trip through Mexico investigating the possibilities of that country but after looking them over he decided to remain in California.

NICHOLAS HOLSTEIN.—An enterprising general merchant of the City of Fresno is Nicholas Holstein, a native of the town of Volsk, Saratof, Russia, where he was born on October 17, 1878. His father was Henry Carl Holstein, who was engaged in the hotel and bakery business until, in 1883, he died there. He had married Fredericka Kerner, who is still living, the mother of twelve children, four of whom have survived.

The second youngest of these four, Nicholas was brought up at Volsk, bereft of his father from his fourth year. He was sent to the Balakova public school, and there learned both German and Russian. When nine years old, he was apprenticed to learn the mercantile business, and for sixteen and a half years he worked for the same firm in two different stores. He was manager the last two years, but he resigned to accept a place with the Singer Sewing Machine Company—for the first four years as agent and bookkeeper, and then for three years as manager.

Mr. Holstein's experience in that capacity was so exceptional that it affords many an interesting tale. During those seven years he was stationed in different cities for 800 miles along the Volga; and with headquarters in the City of Ural, in the Ural Mountains, he traveled 700 miles from the Caspian Sea to Busulak, and so became familiar with various lands and peoples.

In 1913, Mr. Holstein resigned to come to California and Fresno, and for six months he was in the employ of a packing-house. During this time he attended night school, and then he was for two years with the Singer Sewing Machine Company as agent for the county. He was full of business enterprise, and while so engaged started his store in a rented place on this lot, with a small stock of goods, and his wife took charge of the store. The business grew rapidly and at the end of two years Mr. Holstein resigned to look after his own interests. In time he was able to buy a lot and residence, and then to enlarge his store. Now his establishment is one of the notable business houses in his section, dealing in general merchandise and notions, groceries, etc. It is located at 117 F Street, and is a credit to the neighborhood.

In far-off Ural, Mr. Holstein was married to Miss Alexandrina Bier, a native of Volga, and they have four children: Valdemar, Ludmilia, Egenia, and Victor.

IENER W. NIELSEN.—Among the representatives of the Fresno bar may be mentioned Iener W. Nielsen, the descendant of immigrants who hailed originally from Northern Europe and brought with them to the new and fast-developing California, many desirable social and industrial customs. He was born at Fresno on May 8, 1886, and his father was C. Nielsen, who was well-known in his native country as an experienced and painstaking farmer; one of the "old school," determined on making a success of whatever he undertook, and therefore certain to transmit by inheritance to offspring the same invaluable spirit of success-pursuit. He married Emily Westring, and during the middle eighties he crossed the ocean, continued across the continent, and keeping his eye steadily fixed on the Golden State, arrived at length in Fresno County and settled in the Bowles Colony. There engaged in ranching until October 28, 1917, when he died. Mrs. Nielsen and a number of the children are now living on their well-appointed ranch, enjoying the esteem and good-will of all who know them.

Iener Nielsen was educated in the grammar and high schools of Fresno, after which he studied for a year at the Highland Park College in Iowa, from which he was graduated with honors and the coveted degree of Bachelor of Arts. He next matriculated at the University of Southern California Law School, where he was fortunate in attending lectures delivered by some of the most brilliant of California's jurists and expounders of law; and after completing the prescribed courses he returned to the city of his birth, selected a good office, installed one of the most serviceable of modern reference libraries, and began the practice of law. Since that time Mr. Nielsen has made steady professional advancement, and it is a pleasant statement of simple fact that he is today a promising member of the California bar.

Mr. Nielsen belongs to the Woodmen of the World; but his social sympathies are still broader, and he is never second in any endeavor looking to the improvement of society or the decided advancement of man as a social factor.

JOSE MICHAEL LUGEA.—A native son of the Golden West who by his own efforts has made a success and risen to a place of influence and affluence, is Jose Michael Lugea who was born at Tres Pinos, San Benito County, December 1, 1880. His father, Jose Lugea, was born at Garajoa, Navarra, Spain, where he made his home until seventeen years of age when he made his way to Buenos Ayres, South America, where with his brothers he became a stock raiser, continuing there until the fifties, when he was attracted hither. He was the first of the brothers to come to California but they followed him later on.

The elder Jose was married in San Francisco, taking for his wife a lady from his native place, Marie Elizagoyen who had come to San Francisco with her two brothers. Jose Lugea and his brothers became extensive sheep growers making their headquarters at Los Banos, Merced County. Mr. Miguel Arbrura was also a partner with them and between them they owned large flocks as well as a large ranch. Finally they sold and located at Tres Pinos, San Benito County, where they continued together, meeting with success. In 1882 they sold all of their interests and returned to Spain. Miguel Arbrura after a short stay came out to California again, engaging in stock-raising and today is a large land owner and wealthy man, residing in Los Banos. Jose Lugea was satisfied to remain in his native land where he purchased and owned a large farm and raised cattle and sheep. He and his wife both spent their last days there. Of their eight children seven are living, of whom Jose M. is the next to the youngest. Four of the boys came to California; Perfecto died in 1903; Raymond resides in Elko County, Nev.; M. P. is a business man in San Francisco, and our subject. A sister, Mrs. Mary Figols, resides in Red Bluff.

Jose M. was about two years of age when his parents took him back to Spain, where he attended the local school until he was sixteen years of age.

His parents had passed away during his school days and his oldest sister was in charge of the farm. After his school days were over he assisted on the home farm until nineteen. Having always had a desire to return to the land of his birth. He came to San Francisco in 1899, and soon afterwards we find him employed on the ranch of his uncle at Los Banos, afterwards working for Miller & Lux, where he learned to drive the big teams in the grain fields and became familiar with general farming. In 1905 he became foreman of the sheep department on a large ranch at Elko, Nev., where the ranch carried about 20,000 head of sheep. In 1907 he returned to California and engaged in the hotel business with his brother, as proprietors of Hotel de Spanio, until 1917, when he quit the business to give all of his time to sheep-raising in Fresno County in which he had become interested as early as 1909, having a partner, Frank Bezunegui. Their band increased so that in 1915 they divided their flocks and dissolved partnership, since which time he has continued in business alone. His headquarters ranch is near Coalinga and he resided in that city until 1918, when he moved his family to Fresno from which point he superintends his stock and wool-growing interests. The marriage of Mr. Lugea occurred in San Francisco, 1908, when he was united with Eloteria Bezunegui, a native of Navarra, Spain, and five children have blessed their union: Anna, Jose, Agustin, Elisa, and Graciosa. As a native son Mr. Lugea is greatly interested in growth and development of California and very optimistic for its future greatness. When the Growers National Bank of Fresno was organized he became a stockholder, and is a member of its board of directors.

JOSEPH DEMERA.—A leader in the Italian Colony of Fresno, as is evidenced by the fact that he was chosen as a member of the committee on Italian Day, during the celebration held in Fresno in September, 1918; also the only Italian chosen as a member ex-officio, of the Executive Committee on Britain Day, December 7-8, 1918, Joseph Demera, was born March 1, 1872, in the province of Potenza, near Naples, Italy. His early education was received in the public schools of his native country, after which he was engaged in farming. In 1898 Joseph Demera emigrated to the United States, where he secured employment in New York City, remaining in the metropolis until 1903, when he located in Fresno, Cal. His first employment in the Golden State was on a ranch near the city of Fresno, after which, for one year, he was in the employ of the Standard Oil Company, and for eight years rendered faithful and efficient service for the Union Oil Company. Mr. Demera possesses those traits of character so essential to success, industry and economy, and by untiring efforts and thrifty habits, he has eventually won success. His excellent judgment was shown by investing his savings in Fresno real estate, on E Street, where he owns at present three houses and his store building. In the fall of 1917, Mr. Demera opened a grocery store at 1520 E Street, Fresno, in which enterprise he has been very successful. He is a patriotic citizen of the Republic, having become a naturalized citizen of the United States of America at Fresno, in 1904.

In the province of Potenza, Italy, Joseph Demera was united in marriage, February 8, 1893, with Louisa Allampresea, a native of that province, and this happy union has been blessed with three children: Pascal, born May 30, 1900, a student, attending the Nevada State University, at Reno, who is an exceptionally fine musician; an artist on both the piano and violin; Rosie, born September 10, 1901; and James, who was born December 23, 1903. Mr. Demera is a very progressive and public-spirited citizen, always ready to do his part in aiding every worthy movement that has as its aim the upbuilding of the best interests of the community. Religiously, he is a member of the Catholic Church, and in politics supports the Republican party. To those who have succeeded in life solely by their own efforts, much credit is due, and to such a worthy class of citizens belongs the subject of this review, Joseph Demera.

JOSEPH GIARDINA.—A resident in Fresno County who came here in the late nineties and who struggled to get ahead and away from conditions most discouraging, and has "made good," and seen that his children should receive the education necessary for them to attain to success, is Joseph Giardina, who was born in Palermo, Sicily, February 11, 1861 and educated in the Italian public schools. When just eighteen he took the great step and sailed for New York, where he arrived as poor as the thousands sweltering and contesting for their daily bread. The first opportunity opened to him was that of the barber's trade. But he was not satisfied to fight hour after hour for existence in the east, and before it was too late, he packed all his belongings and made for the more Golden West.

In 1881 he arrived at San Francisco, where he worked for awhile at his trade and then located in Astoria, Ore. There he opened a general store for the sale of cigars, provisions, imported goods, etc., and this he carried on with success until 1897. In that year he came to Fresno, and since then he has here resided, identifying himself more and more with the city and the county. For a while he engaged in the fish business on Fresno Street, and carried on a large wholesale and retail store. After seventeen years in that line, when he had become very well and very favorably known, he sold out and opened a cigar store on Tulare Street, where he also did a retail and a wholesale business. In 1916 he removed to his present place at 1141 I Street. Besides his investments in this line of activity, Mr. Giardina owns valuable real estate in Fresno, and has been successful in both buying and selling property. His judgment is good, and often sought by others, and he is wide-awake to perceive a bargain where others, also able to run, but unable to read, pass by the golden opportunity.

Some years ago Mr. Giardina married Annie Leonard, a native of Scotland, and by her he has had five children. Although all were born in Astoria, none could be inspired with more of the native Californian spirit than they. A daughter is Mrs. Joseph Greco, she lives at Fresno with one child; a son is Joseph; another son, Purcel L., is married and has one child to bless his home; the fourth in order of birth is now Mrs. Constance Blaird of Stockton, and the mother of a child; while the youngest is Mrs. Camillia Russ, of Fresno, the mother of a child.

LEOPOLDO SCIAQUA.—A resident of California since 1895 and one of the leading upbuilders of Empire district is Leopoldo Sciacqua, a native of Lucca, Tuscano, Italy, where he was born May 27, 1874, and where he was reared and learned viticulture as it is practiced in his native land. Being desirous of trying his fortune in California, he came hither in 1895, locating in Fresno County. He was for a time employed at lumbering on Pine Ridge, and was afterwards employed in the vineyards of Fresno County. He then spent two years in Oakland, after which he returned to Fresno. He leased a vineyard for a time, and became one of the organizers of the Empire Vineyard and Orchard Company, being associated with L. S. Francini, who was president of the company, while Mr. Sciacqua was superintendent and manager. This was in 1907. The company purchased 1,120 acres of land twelve and a half miles west of Fresno. There was an old orchard on a part of the place. This he grubbed out, and set the place to Thompson seedless, muscat and wine grapes. The company ran the whole place until 1916, when they sold 480 acres. Of this, Mr. Sciacqua and a partner, Mrs. Mary Mautino, purchased 320 acres, which Mr. Sciacqua also superintends and which is devoted to viticulture. He is still interested in the old company, but has resigned the position as manager to give his time to his own place.

In Oakland occurred the marriage of Mr. Sciacqua and Miss Dominica Zucca; and to them have been born four children: Lillian, Guido, Helen, and Frank. Mr. Sciacqua is an experienced and well-posted viticulturist whose advice is often sought by others. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and is highly esteemed.

CHARLES ROSCELLI.—The success achieved by Charles Roscelli, of the firm of Roscelli and Bacci, commission merchants, at 1426 Fresno Street, Fresno, Cal., has been the result of perseverance and well directed industry, combined with good business judgment. He is a native of Genoa, Italy, born January 1, 1876, a member of a family of nine children, and owing to circumstances was obliged to go to work on his father's farm at the very early age of seven years. Being deprived of the opportunity of attending school during the day, Charles took advantage of the excellent night school of his native city, where he received his early education. In 1893, at the age of seventeen, he emigrated to the United States, locating in California, and at San Francisco obtained work in a vegetable garden, later going to Stockton, where for six years he secured employment at various occupations. In 1907 Mr. Roscelli came to Fresno, where he rented four acres of land on the corner of Cherry and California Streets, which he planted to vegetables, and followed gardening for two years, when he removed to Portland, Ore., and later to Seattle, Wash., where he followed clerical work for four years.

In 1913 he returned to Fresno, where he again engaged in vegetable growing, renting for the purpose five acres on Cherry Avenue, and continued in this business for two years. Realizing the opportunity for building up a better business, and one in which he could better develop his capacity for managing larger and more important business affairs, Mr. Roscelli engaged in the commission business, opening a warehouse in 1916 at 1426 Fresno Street, where he is conducting a prosperous and growing business in vegetables and fruits. So successful has the new enterprise proved that it requires the service of two auto trucks for delivery, and in 1918 he took into partnership Frank Bacci.

Mr. Roscelli is a progressive and enterprising business man, one who has succeeded in life solely by his own efforts, and his friends predict for him even greater achievements in the business world.

RILEY JURY.—A resident of California since 1880, Riley Jury is a native of New York State, born at Cape Vincent, at the head of Lake Ontario, Jefferson County, February 5, 1872. His father, William Bulcher Jury, was a native of England and came when a young man to New York State, where he was a farmer and dairyman. In 1880 he brought his family to Niles, Alameda County, locating on a farm, and there he died in 1912. Mr. Jury's mother, Ruth Boles, was also a native of New York, born December 25, 1837. She was first married to Mr. Vandervoort. She now resides in Centerville, Alameda County. She is over eighty-one years of age, and was the champion knitter for the Red Cross in Alameda County. Of her union with W. B. Jury there were four children, three living, of whom Riley is the eldest.

Coming to California from New York when he was eight years old, Mr. Jury went to public school in Alameda County, and then attended Washington Commercial College, at Irvington, where he was graduated in 1889. He then spent four years in the engineering department with the Alameda Sugar Company, resigning in 1897 to engage in stock-raising at Mendota Dam, where he leased the J. C. Mowry ranch of 1,000 acres and raised cattle and hogs. Seeing a great future for intensive farming on the lands in the vicinity of Mendota, he purchased the present place of 160 acres one and one-half miles southwest of Mendota. It was all sage brush, and he cleared it and put the first plow in the soil, making all the improvements. In 1907 he built his residence and moved onto the place. He sunk the well, installed a pumping plant, and planted twenty acres of alfalfa the first year. He found the surface water too salt for irrigating; so he put down a well 570 feet deep and a second well 641 feet deep, which with his electric pumping plant give him ample water for irrigating his ranch. He is raising alfalfa, grain and stock, and has named the ranch the Alpha Grain and Stock Farm, recording the title with the Secretary of State. He raises pure-bred registered Poland-China hogs. Some of his hogs have taken prizes. He is also raising Shropshire sheep. It

has been proven by Mr. Jury that by a systematic method of fencing and irrigating the fields a large number of stock can be carried on a small acreage. He is carrying upwards of 500 head of stock on his ranch the year round. He has paddocks for his full-blooded hogs and rams. Mr. Jury was the first in this section to start irrigation.

Mr. Jury was married at Mission San Jose in 1900 to Miss Emma Arnaudon, a native daughter born in San Francisco, the oldest daughter of A. J. Arnaudon, the pioneer of Mendota. Two children bless this union: Edna and Floyd. Mr. Jury was made a Mason in Alasil Lodge, No. 321, F. & A. M., at Pleasanton. He is an active member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge in Mendota, in which he has been Keeper of Records and Seals for many years.

PETER DALENA.—Peter Dalena was born in Bari, Italy, January 15, 1880. He was educated in the local schools and from a lad learned viticulture, working in his father's vineyard. Determining to try his fortune in the United States, he came to New York City in 1902, and six months later to San Francisco, Cal., arriving in 1903. For a time he was employed as a gardener in Sonoma County, and then engaged in raising beans on an island below Sacramento. In 1905 he came to Reedley, Fresno County, as a foreman on the Great Western Vineyard. In 1908 he came to Arizona Colony, purchased twenty acres of his present place, and immediately began improving it as a vineyard. Later he bought twenty acres adjoining. This was raw land, which he leveled and set to Thompson seedless vines. He now has twenty acres of Thompsons, ten acres of sultanas, and ten acres of muscats. The ranch is well-improved and is set with a border of figs.

Mr. Dalena's marriage occurred in Indianola, Miss., where he was united with Miss Emelia Romagnoli, a native of Issi, Italy. They have three children: Kelina, Ropeo, and Merico. Mr. Dalena has shown much enterprise in improving and building up his splendid ranch property. He is a viticulturist of ability, and is a member and stockholder of the California Associated Raisin Company.

JEAN SAHARGUN.—Jean Sahargun was born in Aldudes, Basses-Pyrénées, October 13, 1876. His father, Martin Sahargun, being a farmer, the lad Jean was reared to farming and stock-raising as practiced in the south of France, where he received a good education in the common schools. The father died when Jean was a youth of thirteen years. He began working out on farms to make his own livelihood, remaining with one employer for seven years. He then entered the Sixth Infantry Regiment of the French army, serving three years, when he was honorably discharged. Having a brother Pierre who had migrated to California in 1887 and was engaged in sheep-raising in Fresno County, Jean determined to cast in his lot on the Pacific Coast and came hither to join his brother.

Pierre Sahargun was in partnership with Peter Arbios, with headquarters in Mendota, and became a very successful stockman, though his career was cut short by his death in 1908 at the age of thirty-nine years. Pierre had married Miss Josephine Daunet, the ceremony taking place in Mendota on October 17, 1903. She was born in Lurbei, Basses-Pyrénées. Her father, Pierre Daunet, was a stockman at Lurbei. In 1900 she came to Fresno where she resided until her marriage. She is the mother of one child, John.

Jean Sahargun arrived in Mendota in December, 1900, where he assisted his brother in the care of his flock. In 1906, having accumulated some means, he bought a bunch of sheep and started in for himself. Meanwhile, his brother's health failing, he also took care of his flock until his death. Mr. Sahargun has increased the number of his band and is now accounted a well-to-do and successful stockman on the West Side in Fresno County, ranging his band on the plains in winter and in the Sugar Pine district of the Sierras during the summer. He is a man of kindly nature and is liberal and enterprising. He is a member of the California Automobile Association.

HENRY SCHEIDT.—Among the enterprising men who are actively identified with the development of the horticultural and viticultural interests of Fresno County, in the vicinity of Sanger, and one who has demonstrated by his career the true worth of thrift, perseverance and self-confidence, is Henry Scheidt, a native of Russia, where he was born on August 18, 1870. He is a son of Chris and Christina Scheidt, who were the parents of eleven children, and he was reared and educated in his native country where he remained until 1896, when he immigrated to the United States and settled the same year in California. Two other members of the family are now located in Fresno County, August Scheidt, and Mrs. Catherine Horg, who reside in the city of Fresno.

Upon his arrival in Fresno County, Henry Scheidt was practically without means but possessed a stout heart and strong determination to succeed. After years of arduous labor and economical living he had saved enough money to purchase his first ranch which consisted of forty acres, and after improving the place he sold it and purchased his present home ranch of forty acres, thirty of which were improved and the balance he has set to vines. Later he purchased forty acres more which he is improving with vines, and this gives him eighty acres devoted to horticulture and viticulture. His ambition in life was to be the sole owner of a ranch, which worthy aim he has lived to see more than consummated, and his example is all the more deserving of commendation as he began with nothing and has made for himself a recognized place among the ranchers of his section of Fresno County.

On January 12, 1889, Henry Scheidt was united in marriage with Miss Sophia Spate, of Samara, Russia, and this happy union was blessed with fifteen children, nine of whom are living: Chris; Henry; Peter; Sophia; Alexander; Fred; Augustus; Edward; and Harry. Peter enlisted in the United States Navy in August, 1918, and was stationed at Mare Island until his discharge on May 16, 1919. Henry was married January 20, 1918, to Lizzie Rau. Mr. Scheidt is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and is a stockholder in the California Peach Growers, Inc. The family are members of the Lutheran Church, and in politics are Republican in national affairs, while in local matters they support the best men and measures.

JOSE M. YRACEBURU.—A farmer and stockman of the West Side who has been a resident of Fresno County since 1900 is Jose M. Yraceburu who was born at Villanueva, Navarra, Spain, September 27, 1874, the oldest of eleven children born to Jose Ramon and Firmina (Erro) Yraceburu who were farmers in Spain where his mother died November 2, 1914, while the father now resides with our subject. Jose's parents were in very moderate circumstances so when Jose was eight and one-half years of age had to go to work for a farmer; he continued with him six years. He followed farm work until he was nineteen years of age when he became a soldier in the Spanish army and was sent to Cuba where he served until 1899. During this time he served in the Spanish-American War. Returning to Spain in 1899 he remained one year and then came to California locating in Fresno. He immediately found employment with a sheepman on the West Side, continuing this work for about ten years and then invested his savings in a band of sheep, a business he has followed ever since. He has improved his ranch with a residence and other suitable buildings. Aside from sheep and wool growing he leases land, sowing from 1,200 to 1,500 acres each year to grain. Mr. Yraceburu was married in Hanford, July 12, 1909, to Miss Trinidad Cerdau born in Navarra, Spain, the daughter of Pascaso and Eulalia (Cavero) Cerdau who spent their entire lives in Spain. Mrs. Yraceburu came to Fresno County in 1904. They have two children, Jose Raymond and Gabino; the latter died September, 1918, when three and one-half years old. Mr. Yraceburu was made a full citizen of the United States in 1912.

ANNIBALE TRUCCHI.—The popular proprietor of the dependable grocery store located at 1040 H Street, Fresno, Annibale Trucchi, is a native of Torino, Italy, where he first saw the light of day on September 5, 1849. In his youth he attended a military college and at sixteen years of age entered the Italian Army, in which he rapidly rose to the position of a lieutenant. Mr. Trucchi remained in the army eleven years during which time he saw service during the revolution in the city of Palermo, in 1866. Resigning from the army in 1874, he engaged in the dry goods business at Forli, Italy, where he remained eight years. In 1889, having a desire to see more of the world, and particularly the United States, he emigrated to America stopping for a time in Chicago, after which he continued his journey westward until he reached the Golden State, locating for one year at San Francisco. Later, Mr. Trucchi moved to Stockton where he operated a general store for eight years. In 1900 he arrived in Fresno, where he opened a general merchandise store at 1040 H Street, and here he has been engaged in business ever since. Mr. Trucchi possesses a happy faculty of making and retaining many friends, a very valuable business asset; this, coupled with his good business management and the courteous treatment of his patrons, has been a great factor in building up a very prosperous business. As he succeeded in business he purchased land and at one time bought forty acres of raw land, in the Perrin Colony, which he improved with vines and fruit trees, developed water and erected a home, after which he was offered a good price for his place and sold in 1914. Mr. Trucchi has large real estate holdings in the city of Fresno, consisting of eighteen lots and three houses.

Mr. Trucchi was united in marriage, at Chicago, with Armenia Santori, a native of Italy, and they are the parents of three children: Louisa, who married A. Cantoni; Elizabeth, who is now Mrs. Roy Mazzi; and Joaquin. Mr. and Mrs. Trucchi are especially proud of their three grandchildren. During the eighteen years of his residence in Fresno, Mr. Trucchi has witnessed the remarkable growth of this city and its wonderful developments and has always been interested in those movements and measures that make for the upbuilding of the best interests of the city and county. Fraternally, Mr. Trucchi is a member of the Foresters of America, having been affiliated with this organization for twenty-seven years.

ROCCO S. GOBBY.—An industrious dairyman, who gives his wife credit for a large part of his prosperity, is Rocco S. Gobby, the youngest of the three Gobby brothers who came from Petaluma to Riverdale many years ago, and whose progress has been interwoven with the development of the county. These young men have overcome difficulties that would have disheartened the less resolute. As a dairyman, as a director in the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery, and as a public-spirited citizen, Rocco S. Gobby must be classed with the best citizenry of Central California. He is also a stockholder in and helped organize the First National Bank of Riverdale, and he assisted in getting the railroad through this part of the county.

Mr. Gobby was born at Neva, Switzerland, in Canton Ticino, on August 20, 1866, a member of a family in which the brothers and sisters were companions—the family history being given with more detail in the sketch of Louis Gobby, printed elsewhere in this book. Mr. Gobby's brothers and sisters were: Peter, (now deceased); Adeline and Josephine, who both died single in Italy; and Louis. In 1886, when California was beginning to realize her possibilities, Mr. Gobby came to California. He left home on October 5, sailed from Havre, France, and landed in New York, anxious to reach California and see his older brother, Louis, who had preceded him two years before.

Just one month after he left home, Mr. Gobby reached Petaluma, and went to work on a dairy ranch for eighteen dollars a month. He saved his money, and after a while he and Louis rented a dairy farm in Sonoma County

for a year. There they worked as hard as ever, so that between them they had about \$2,000 when they came to Riverdale and rented 640 acres of the Burrel estate holdings. The brothers went energetically to work and ran a private dairy; they made butter and sold it in Fresno, and prospered. There the brother Peter joined them; and being overambitious, perhaps, they went back to Sonoma County and bought eighty-five head of young cattle, thinking to clean up handsome profits in the investment. They shipped them by water and rail to Central California, and drove them to their definite destination; but the Texas fever broke out, and in two weeks they had all died save nineteen. Then, when the losses had broken them financially, the started again to work as farm hands at monthly wages, and began anew. Peter and Rocco S. rented John's Ranch, but when Peter went back to Switzerland to get married, Louis bought out his interest, and thereafter Louis and Rocco continued the business together and prospered. For one or two years the brothers continued in partnership, and then Rocco managed the dairy for himself. He bought this place of seventy-two acres, half a mile east of what is now Riverdale, and later bought a tract of land in partnership with his brother, Louis, of which Rocco has retained some eighty acres. This he has highly improved and made into a very fine dairy ranch. After a while, he bought sixty-three acres located between the home ranch and Riverdale.

Mr. Gobby, besides being a stockholder in the First National Bank, has also been a stockholder in the Riverdale Cooperative Creamery since its start in 1911, having done effective work in its organization. When his brother Peter, who was a director, died on July 15, 1917, the vacancy in the board of directors was filled by appointing Rocco; and being an excellent business man with progressive ideas, he has been able to serve the creamery to great advantage, and during the present year, additional building and machinery to the value of \$25,000 have been added, making a total investment of about \$50,000.

Rocco S. Gobby was married to Amelia Leon, sister of Camilli Leon of Burrel, and who was a native of the same canton as was her husband. Mr. and Mrs. Gobby have had four children. The first was still-born. The second was Louis Edward, who served his country as a machine gunner in the One Hundred Sixty-sixth Machine-gun Company of the Forty-second, Rainbow Division, participating in the Aisne-Marne, July 25 to August 3; St. Mihiel, September 12 to 16; Meuse-Argonne, October 11 to 31, 1918. He returned to America with his division; landed at Hoboken, N. J., April 25, 1919; was honorably discharged at the Presidio, at San Francisco, on May 21, 1919, and is now at home. The third child is Millie, at home; and the fourth is Albert, twenty-one years of age, engaged as a plumber at Riverdale. Their beloved mother passed away at the age of thirty years in December, 1898.

FRED HORCH.—A well-posted and successful horticulturist, is Fred Horch, who was born at Stepnofski, Samara, Russia, on March 29, 1876, the son of George Horch, a native of that section who was a farmer and died there in 1903. His wife was Kathrina Miller before her marriage, and she is still living, the honored mother of eleven children, six of whom are also living.

Fred attended the public schools of his home district and grew up on a farm; one of his household being a sister, Christina, now Mrs. Salwasser, of Parent Colony, Fresno County. In 1897 Fred entered the Russian army, and was later transferred to the Russian navy and served four years in the Baltic fleet. In 1901 he was honorably discharged, having made a good record as machinist and engineer on the Lut Kamina. While in service his right hand was caught in a wheel so that he lost three fingers.

On January 31, 1902, Mr. Horch was married to Miss Christine Nilmeier, a native of his birthplace and the daughter of Fred Nilmeier, a farmer, still there at the ripe old age of seventy years. His wife, Kathrina, born there is

also living. She is the mother of eight children, six of whom are living, five being in America: Annie is Mrs. Gross of Fresno; Christine is the wife of the subject of this review; August, who attended the same school, lives on the old homestead; Sophie is Mrs. Michel, of Fresno; Maggie, Mrs. Sparks, dwells near by; and Marie is Mrs. Rosenthal, also a neighbor.

On May 5, 1902, Mr. Horch brought his wife to Winnipeg, Canada, and after two months came to Fresno, where he arrived in August, 1902. He went to work on the Southern Pacific Railway under Peter Nilmeier, and after a short time he was employed in a vineyard and packing-house, and then in an oil-refinery. He worked about six years, here and there, gathering more experience than money; but he got ahead sufficiently to buy a ranch of twenty acres in the Laguna tract.

This he improved to alfalfa, and a year later sold it at a profit. He returned to Fresno, and after a year rented an orchard and vineyard of 120 acres in the Wilson tract, which he ran for a year. He then bought a thirty-acre ranch on McKinley Avenue, which he improved and conducted for two years; and when he sold it he returned to Fresno. At the end of two years he leased an orchard on Belmont Avenue. After another period of two years he leased a place in the McKinley district. This has forty acres of orchard, with Muir, Lovell and Elberta peaches, and well equipped in every respect. He has a Bean power-sprayer, and a sulphur house and drying grounds. He belongs to the California Peach Growers, Inc., and has been a member and a stockholder from its organization.

Two children, Kathrine and Edward, have added to the friends of the Horch family, and with their parents attend the Lutheran Church in Fresno, of which Mr. Horch is an ex-trustee. He belongs to the Republican party and does his share in working for civic uplift and local improvement.

ANDREW SODERBERG.—Among those from foreign shores who are loyal to the country of their adoption and who have made for themselves a place in the community where they reside, Andrew Soderberg is a quiet, unassuming and industrious rancher and fruit-raiser who came to America with the intention of making good and is doing it. He was born in Dalene, Sweden, December 24, 1855. His father was a farmer and the son was brought up on the farm. His mother was Sarah Erikson. Both parents are now dead. They had two children, Andrew, in California, and Frederick, in Minnesota.

Mr. Soderberg attended the public schools in his native land, and learning the carpenter trade, engaged in building and contracting, until in 1879, when he came to America, going to Hudson, Wis., where he engaged in lumbering for a year. In 1880 he located a homestead of 160 acres in Saint Hilaire, Minn. While improving his place he engaged in contracting and building, following this for many years in connection with his farming. He bought forty acres additional, and then had 200 acres, which he put in grain, and he also handled stock.

In 1910, Mr. Soderberg made a trip to California and, being well pleased with the country, purchased thirty-six acres and began improvements, and in 1912 moved onto it. He now has ten acres of peaches, six and a half acres in Thompson Seedless, and the balance in alfalfa and grain.

Mr. Soderberg was married in Minneosta to Miss Hannah Anderson, who was born in Sweden, but came to Minnesota with her parents when a child. Of their six children we name the following: Arthur, with the Southern Pacific, in San Francisco; Albert, with the United States Army in France; Milton, a graduate of the University of California, and a teacher of Agriculture, is also in the United States Service; Ethel, a graduate of Kerman High, is attending the University of California; Arnold, also of Kerman High School.

While in Minnesota, Mr. Soderberg was for many years a school director, and here he is a member of the Lutheran Church. He is also affiliated with the California Peach Growers, Inc., the California Associated Raisin Company, and the Modern Woodmen.

REV. GEORGE HAROOTUNE FILIAN.—A ranching evangelist who, with his wife, leads the simple life, devotes every minute to useful activity of some kind, and gives freely of all his surplus earnings, is the Reverend George Harootune Filian, the well-known author and lecturer, whose literary and ministerial accomplishments are familiar to thousands in many parts of the United States. He farms with success on his ranch of fifty-three and a half acres three-quarters of a mile south of Parlier; but unlike many who gladly take the fruits of the earth and hoard them for their own selfish benefit, the Reverend Filian devotes all the excess of the gross income of \$7,000 a year to the relief of his countrymen.

He was born at Antioch, in Armenia, on January 20, 1853, in the place where, according to Biblical narrative, the Disciples first were called Christians. His father was a banker at Antioch. Nine boys and four girls were born to these parents, and three of the family became ministers. George was the twelfth child, and as almost the youngest, received perhaps more than the usual tender care from the mother, who was Rosa Chalikian before her marriage.

The paternal grandfather was John Filian, and there is an interesting story as to the origin, from his time, of the family name. He was an orphan child; and as he grew to maturity, he became exceptionally large and muscular. He was therefore nicknamed "Filian," which in the Armenian language means "son of an elephant," or gigantic; and this name so stuck to him that it was transmitted to his children and their descendants. He began life poor, but was a hard worker and he became one of the largest and wealthiest farmers in the vicinity of Antioch. Grandfather Filian died in Armenia at the age of seventy-five. George's father, also George Filian, inherited his father's business ability, and becoming a banker, he grew to be one of the wealthiest men at Antioch. He loaned money to silk-growers in that vicinity, for the country round about Antioch has become famous for its silk culture. He also died aged seventy-five, and the mother passed away in her seventieth year.

George's father owned seven or eight farms near Antioch, and so he was able and disposed to do well by his children. The lad went to school and learned the Armenian language. He was christened in the Gregorian Church, to which his parents belonged; but in 1856 he was converted by American Congregational missionaries—Messrs. Powers and Morgan, then preaching at Antioch—and thereafter he went to the American missionary schools in Armenia, and in 1873 he entered on the academic course, and studied English and the Bible until 1876.

Having finished the regular school course, he began to preach as an evangelist in different Armenian cities, and in 1878 he started for America, still further to equip himself. He sailed from Samasoun by way of Constantinople, Gibraltar and Great Britain, landing at Cardiff and re-sailing from Liverpool; and finally, on July 4, 1878, he arrived at New York City. There he started at once to work for a living; and when he had made such headway that he had laid aside a part of his earnings, in 1879 he matriculated at Oberlin College; in 1880 he entered the Union Theological Seminary in New York. He studied the Bible there, and then continued as a student in the Chicago Theological Seminary; and was graduated in 1882, after which he was ordained as a preacher of the Congregational ministry and lectured in the states of the East and Middle West.

In the fall of that year he went back to Armenia, where he was married, on November 15, to Miss Housdiane Minasian, an Armenian but a native of Constantinople. She was the daughter of a wealthy merchant, Bedros Minasian, proprietor of the "Minasian Armenian Store" there; her mother was Sirpuhi, also a native of Constantinople. After the marriage, Mr. Filian entered upon his life work as a minister and evangelist.

Soon after being ordained, Mr. Filian was a Congregational minister at Wheaton, Ill., the scene of his elevation to the pulpit, and there he first began to get that real understanding of the American people and the institutions of this country. He has crossed the Atlantic five times. His second trip to America was made for the purpose of raising money for the erection of a church at Marsovan in Armenia. He was able to get together \$20,000, returned to Armenia and had built a church to hold 1,500 souls. This edifice he turned over to the Protestant congregation at Marsovan; but the Turkish authorities, learning of the event, banished him and massacred the members of the church, at the same time that they appropriated the edifice, and converted the church into a Mohammedan mosque.

It was the first year of the new century that witnessed Mr. Filian's advent in Fresno, for then he came and built the Armenian Presbyterian Church in J Street. He left the Congregational, and joined the Presbyterian Church in order to associate himself with the new movement; and although the congregation was organized in 1900, only two years were required for the erection of a suitable church home. In 1903 he came to Parlier and bought his ranch referred to, and for fifteen years he has worked to steadily improve it. Mr. and Mrs. Filian have one child, Rose, who is now the wife of Ohan Ohannessian, the well-known attorney at Fresno; and they have two children, Theodore G. and Elsie H.

Besides lecturing on Armenian problems, Mr. Filian wrote several books that have had notable sales and have undoubtedly effected great good. "Armenia and Her People" was published by the American Publishing Company at Hartford, Conn., in 1896, and was a volume of 374 pages. His next work was "Heavenly Lights," a book of his sermons set in 415 pages, and run from the press of the American Tract Society. It was printed in the Armenian language, and Mr. Filian paid for printing this himself. The volume has been circulated and read by his fellow-countrymen, in America as well as in Armenia, and he has never made a penny out of the transaction, which has thus helped to spread the Gospel. In addition to the above, he has the manuscript, written in his own hand in the Armenian language, for a greatly enlarged edition of "Heavenly Lights" and this will soon be published as a five volume work. This he will also pay for himself; for he takes Christ at his word, and believes that "it is more blessed to give than it is to receive." His illustrated lecture on "Armenia and Her People" is presented with more than two hundred and fifty beautifully colored lantern views of Armenia, Constantinople and the Holy Land.

Among other publications of the Reverend Mr. Filian is a fifteen-page pamphlet, "Armageddon and the Battle of Armageddon," which was copyrighted in 1913. In it the author definitely locates the battlefield, and predicts that a great world war will take place in 1914; and he goes so far as to prophecy not only the participation of European nations in the great affray, but says that even the United States will be dragged into it. It is remarkable that the gist of this pamphlet, which is based on the prophecies in the scriptures, was also given in his "Armenia and Her People," published in 1896, and which was dedicated to the martyrs of Armenia who lost their lives in defense of the Christian faith.

AUGUST PARRET.—Among the enterprising and progressive men who crossed the ocean from France to cast in his lot on the Pacific Coast we find August Parret, who was born in Ambrun, Hautes-Alpes, March 1, 1872, the oldest of nine children born to Eli and Philomina (Rispaud) Parret, well-to-do farmers in Ambrun, where the mother died, and where the father is still living at the old home.

August Parret was reared to the life of a farmer, and received a thorough education in the elementary branches in the public schools. After completing the local schools he was apprenticed at the baker's trade and continued to fol-

low that occupation until December, 1890, when he migrated to the United States, coming immediately to Fresno, Cal. On his arrival he went to work in the French Bakery, where he completed his trade. In 1894 he and his brother Eli started the Parisian Bakery, which they conducted for one year and then sold. Mr. Parret then became foreman for the Fresno Bakery, a position he filled satisfactorily for eight years, when he resigned and again went into partnership with his brother Eli and purchased the Parisian Bakery, at 737 G Street, which they conducted successfully for nine years. August then sold his interest to his brother, and accepted a position as foreman in the Tulare Bakery. This position he held for four years, resigning to engage in farming.

About three years ago Mr. Parret purchased his present ranch of thirty acres in Vinland Colony, where he is engaged in raising alfalfa and fruits. He is growing peaches and Thompson seedless vines and is meeting with well-merited success on his ranch. He also owns property in Clovis.

The marriage of Mr. Parret occurred in Fresno, where he was united with Miss Catherine Houkert, a native of Basses-Pyrénées, France. They have three children: Philomina, a graduate of Fresno High, and a stenographer for the Underwood Typewriter Agency in Fresno; Eli, assisting his father on the farm; and Albert, who is also at home.

Mr. Parret is a member of the Ancient Order of Foresters, the California Associated Raisin Company, and the California Peach Growers' Association. He speaks Italian as well as French, and for many years was frequently called as interpreter in those languages in the courts of the county. At one time he was nominated for city trustee, but withdrew as a candidate before the election. He was made a citizen of the United States in 1895, and is a Democrat in politics.

JOHN PHILLIP HELMUTH.—An example of what can be done by persevering industry and the determination to succeed is shown in the life story of John Phillip Helmuth, an enterprising rancher of the Biola district. He is a native of Russia, born in Ososki, Samara, July 28, 1860, a son of Jacob and Kathrina Elizabeth (Gammel) Helmuth, the father now deceased and the mother, aged eighty-five, making her home with her son John Phillip.

The third oldest in a family of six children, Mr. Helmuth was educated in the public schools of his native place and worked on his father's farm. After the latter's death, he ran the home place for his mother, and in 1881 he was married to Kathrina Weyand, also born in Samara, and a daughter of Phillip and Kathrina (Martin) Weyand; the mother died when Mrs. Helmuth was a child of five years, and her father died when she was seventeen.

After his marriage John Phillip followed farming in the old country until 1901, when they came to California and settled in Fresno, and for nine years he did ranch work in Fresno and vicinity. He then went to Hamilton, Glenn County, and was employed in the beet-sugar factory there. He returned to Fresno, and in 1909 bought a forty-acre ranch on Shields Avenue, in the Empire district, making all the improvements on the land, which with the exception of five acres in orchards, is set out to Thompson seedless vineyards. In 1916 he bought forty acres at Biola, and this he has also improved to Thompson vineyards; has built a new residence, and operates the property to splendid advantage, irrigating both from ditches and from a pumping-plant he has installed.

Ten children have come to Mr. and Mrs. Helmuth: Katie, Mrs. Solwasser of Vinland; Maggie, Mrs. Will of Biola; Jack, a vineyardist of Biola; Henry, in viticulture in Vinland; George, vineyardist of Vinland; Phillip, served with the United States Army in France, being in service eighteen months; Christian, who has twenty acres at Biola; and August, Marie, and Peter, at home. The family attends the Congregational Church of Fresno. Mr. Helmuth is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and a man of liberal ideas, willing to work for the upbuilding of the community.

PHILIP BURT THORNTON.—Among the men of southern lineage whose names should be mentioned in writing the history of the development of Fresno County is Philip Burt Thornton, attorney at law, Cory Building, Fresno, a native of Greene County, Ala.

In 1869, his parents, Dr. George F. Thornton and Susan Ann (Perrin) Thornton, removed from Alabama, their native state, to San Francisco, Cal., where they resided until they came to Fresno in 1891. In the early seventies Dr. Thornton went to Bakersfield, Kern County, Cal., as the general manager of the Haggin, Carr and Tevis interests. For many years he held that position, and it was under his management that the vast property now known as the Kern County Land Company's property, was first developed. Associated with Dr. Thornton in the upbuilding, re-claiming and development of that property were the Hon. H. A. Jastro, Walter James, Temple Taylor and many others. Irrigation and intensive farming were in their infancy at that time; many things that are now taken for granted had to be worked out and developed. California certainly owes a lasting debt of gratitude to such men as James B. Haggin, W. B. Carr, Lloyd Tevis, Henry Miller and other intellectual and financial giants, who had confidence in the agricultural future of the State and backed that confidence with their money.

Philip B. Thornton was educated in the private schools of San Francisco. After studying in the University School under George Bates, a famous teacher of the day, he entered the University of California and was graduated from that institution with the degree of Bachelor of Arts, in 1889. From 1889 to 1893 he was associated with his father in the cattle business in Arizona. Then he began the study of the law in San Francisco, in the offices of Garber, Boalt & Bishop, under John Garber, and was admitted to practice in 1896.

After practicing in Arizona, he came to Fresno in 1900, and became interested in the large Minor & Thornton cattle and dairy ranch. As a rancher Mr. Thornton was largely instrumental in building up a splendid dairy herd of pure-blooded Holstein-Friesian cattle on the Minor-Thornton Ranch.

The present prosperous condition of the dairy business in this section of the State is largely due to the efforts of the early dairymen and breeders; they developed the resources of the country and showed what could be done. As an advocate of pure-blooded stock, and of progressive, up-to-date methods, Mr. Thornton has certainly left a lasting impression upon the development of Fresno County.

MARIANO ELICECHE.—A gentleman who was engaged in the stock business in Fresno County up till the time of his death was Mariano Eliceche, who was born in the Province of Navarra, Spain, in 1873 and passed away in San Francisco, Cal., in February, 1918. He was reared on the farm in his native place, where he received his education in the local schools. Deciding the Pacific Coast held greater opportunities for a young man with energy and an ambition to work and succeed, he migrated to California when twenty-five years of age, coming to Fresno County, where he was employed by a sheep man. A few years later, having accumulated some money, he purchased a small flock and began raising sheep on his own account. About 1904 he came to Coalinga, where he made his residence and headquarters. Later he purchased land near Alcalde, and there engaged in ranching, running his sheep and cattle in the hills. In 1914 he became associated with Levy's in stockraising, continuing with them until his death.

Mr. Eliceche was married in Fresno, September 7, 1903, to Miss Juana Alvarez, also a native of Navarra, Spain. Her father died when she was six years of age, and the mother and four children came to Fresno in 1901, where the mother died in 1916. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Eliceche five children were born, as follows: Michael, Geraldine, Mary, Frank, and Joseph. Since her husband's death Mrs. Eliceche has sold the stock, and rents her land and continues to make her home in Coalinga, where she is rearing and educating her children. The family are members of the Catholic Church.

ANTONE GARCIA.—The superintendent of the Helm division for Miller & Lux, Antone Garcia, was born in the Province of Coruna, Spain, December 28, 1887, and was reared on his father Manuel Garcia's farm, receiving a good education in the local schools. Having heard tell of the opportunities to be had in California, he resolved to come hither and, though only thirteen years of age, found the opportunity offered when his uncle M. Garcia was returning to California from a visit in Spain. He obtained permission to accompany his uncle and on arrival entered the employ of Miller & Lux at Buttonwillow, Kern County. Later he was employed on the Panama ranch near Bakersfield, and while there attended night school in Bakersfield for two and a half years. At nineteen years of age he became foreman at Buttonwillow under James Ogden. In 1908 he was transferred to Firebaugh as foreman and continued in that capacity until 1916, when he was promoted to his present position as superintendent of the Helm division for Miller & Lux, with his headquarters at the Helm ranch near Mendota. He has seven different ranches under his supervision, extending from Kerman to Oxalis. He gives the different places the best of attention and active supervision, and is well qualified to fill the position as he is now one of the oldest in years of service with the company.

Mr. Garcia has been twice married, his first union being with Kate Erre-cart, a native daughter of California, who passed away in Los Angeles in 1914, leaving him three children: Marie, Frank and Albert. His second marriage took place in Stockton, where he was united with Miss Olga Swenson, a lady of culture and refinement, who ably assists him and encourages him in his ambitions. Mr. Garcia was made a citizen in Fresno County seven years ago, and is a staunch Republican.

CHARLES LEWIS WALTER.—A highly-honored pioneer of Fresno County, who has for years been active as a scientific, progressive horticulturist, and as an exponent of irrigation according to the latest and most approved methods, is C. L. Walter, a former resident of Fowler, where he planted and improved an extensive area, and now one of the esteemed citizens of Oakland. He is largely interested in the general merchandise firm of J. S. Manley & Co., Inc., and through his established interests here continues to identify himself, though indirectly, with the town of his early choice.

He was born in Mercer County, Ill., on July 16, 1850, the son of Silas Walter, a New Englander by birth and at one time a seafaring man, who rose to be a captain. As a young man, he came to Mercer County and took up government land, and farmed. He married a widow, Mrs. Evelyn (Decker) Groff, a native of Muskingum County, Ohio, who removed to Illinois before her first marriage, and there had two daughters. Mary, now Mrs. E. P. Riply, resides at Spokane, Wash., and Dora is Mrs. Charles Brown of Viroqua, Wis. When our subject was only seven years of age, his father passed away; and three years later, he lost his mother. There were three boys in the family, Charles Lewis being the eldest, Benjamin coming next, and H. F. being the youngest. Benjamin died in Illinois in 1876, leaving a daughter; and H. F. has become the well-known physician and surgeon of San Francisco. Before he went East to study medicine, he was principal of a grammar school in Fresno, and became known for his participation in Fresno County educational work.

As a mere boy, Charles Lewis enlisted in Company C, Eleventh Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, at one time—1862—commanded by Col. Robert G. Ingersoll, and on his fifteenth birthday, he had been in the service six months and five days. He was then stationed at Memphis, Tenn., and as a cavalryman, did scout duty. He remained in the service until October 11, 1865, when he was honorably discharged at Camp Butler, Springfield, Ill. Returning to civil life, he went to the common schools in Mercer County, Ill., and also at Viroqua, Wis. After the war, with his two brothers he opened up the coal mines on his father's government land.

In 1867, Mr. Walter came out to California, traveling by way of Nicaragua and landing at San Francisco in April. He sailed up from Greytown on the old steamship *America*, a side-wheeler which broke her shaft, and they had to worry along with only one wheel. As they were two weeks overdue when they arrived at the end of the journey, it is no wonder that the ship was reported lost, with all on board. He remained in California from 1867 until the completion of the railroad, when he went back to Illinois, in 1869, and again took charge of his father's farm.

In 1871, he came out to California again and for a while mined at Liberty Hill, Nevada County, and at Dutch Flat, in Placer County. As he was well endowed with musical ability, he took to the violin, played for dances and other social functions of those days, and was popular as an amateur violinist. He went over to Nevada in 1876, and at a place in White Pine County then called Ward, he continued mining. When he left White Pine County, he moved North to Spokane, Washington, and bought railroad land before the advent of the Northern Pacific Railway; and coming South again, he went to Yuma County, Arizona, where he became foreman of the Red Cloud Mine, six miles from the Colorado River, fifty miles above Yuma.

Returning to California, Mr. Walter stopped off at Fowler to see some relatives, and became so interested in this locality that he bought a section of land, a part of the Philip Bert estate. Later he sold one-half of the section, keeping for himself the north half of section fourteen, known as the Walter Colony, which lies half a mile east of Fowler; and leasing additional land, he put the whole into wheat and Egyptian corn. In a short time, he was farming extensively, and at one time he raised 11,000 sacks of wheat and shipped the first carloads of "Gyp" corn to the San Francisco market. In the early eighties Selma and Prairie school districts were the nearest to Fowler. With difficulty Mr. Walter secured the necessary signatures of parents representing fifteen children and established the Fowler school district, being one of the first trustees. Of the children, not one resided in what is now the town of Fowler. All were farmers' children.

He helped to build the Garfield ditch, and became a prime mover in the irrigation systems in this part of Fresno County. One Sunday, in company with William McCall and Frank Dusey, he went up the Kings River for the purpose of locating a site from which they could divert water for irrigation; and this led to the establishment of the Fowler Canal and the incorporation of the canal company. They located the site for a dam and called a meeting of the settlers at the Frank Dusey Place, north of Selma, and there formed a corporation for the construction of the Fowler Canal. When they proceeded to construct the canal, however, in the early eighties, they discovered that the settlers had not much money, and arrangements were made whereby the latter could work out their shares. The engineers divided up the land into sections, and each settler along the line was given a certain portion to excavate. Each one was supposed to raise one hundred dollars in cash, and to work out \$200 worth, and so to acquire a share worth \$300. Mr. Walter in this way became one of the first directors in the canal, and later the canal superintendent.

He was also elected supervisor from the Fourth District, and served for four years. During his term, the water rights and litigation relative to the same occupied the attention of Mr. Walter to a great extent, and were the cause of frequent appeals to the courts. He bought stock in the First National Bank at Fresno and was a director there for twelve years; and he helped to organize the People's Savings Bank at Fresno. He later assisted in organizing the Union National Bank of Fresno, and was a director in it for several years, and he contributed to organize the First National Bank of Fowler, and was a director in that for several years. He owned and operated the Belmont & Yosemite Railway, a horse-car line, the first in Fresno, and was both superintendent and manager; and later he sold out his holding, two-thirds of the capital stock, to Griffin McKenzie. At one time, also, he was part owner of the Fresno Republican and was also actively interested in the Walter Colony, which he laid out and successfully colonized. He

ran for State Senator against G. G. Goucher, but was defeated by 218 votes. In June, 1897, Mr. Walter being attracted by the Klondike excitement, journeyed to Alaska via the Chilcoot Pass. With four companions he experienced the thrill of passing through the Miles Canon and Whitehorse Rapids in an open boat. One year in Alaska convinced Mr. Walter that Fresno County was the real Eldorado, as subsequent developments have proven.

In 1902 Mr. Walter became interested in the firm of J. S. Manley & Co., Inc., of Fowler, the leading dealers in general merchandise at that place; which firm has at its head a very able manager, also one of the earliest pioneers at Fowler, J. S. Manley, who resides at Fowler, and under whose able direction the firm has become one of the largest operators in Fresno County.

At Eureka, Nev., on December 18, 1876, Mr. Walter was married to Miss Meda L. Decker, a native daughter born in Solano County; she taught for a while at Napa and then moved to Ward, Nev. They have one adopted daughter, Miss Melba Virginia. In June, 1910, Mr. and Mrs. Walter moved to Oakland, and there they now reside in a beautiful home at 5658 Ocean View Drive. This removal to the bay city, however, has not diminished Mr. Walter's interest in Fowler or moderated his old-time devotion to her best phases, or to his Fowler friends.

JOHN CERINI.—A Californian who has generously supported the Government in the Liberty Bond, Red Cross and other War drives, is John Cerini, financier, stockman and dairyman, who came to the Golden State when he was fifteen, began at the lowest round of the ladder, and by hard work has succeeded.

Mr. Cerini was born at Guimaglio, Canton Ticino, Switzerland, on January 20, 1854, the son of John Cerini, a landowner, although a laborer. The latter went to Australia to mine gold and died there on July 4, 1863, leaving his wife, who was Marianna Puggi, a widow with five children. She lived to be eighty-five years of age.

John was the youngest child in his father's family, and was sent to the local public schools of Switzerland, which he left in the middle of his teens, when he decided that it was time to make his own way in the world. At first he secured employment on the farms in his neighborhood, and then he left the scenes of his childhood and sailed for the United States. He first shipped for Hull and Liverpool, England, and then for New York; and after that he traveled to San Francisco by way of the Panama Canal. For a month following his arrival on the Coast he went to school in Sonoma County, and then he obtained work on a dairy farm in Marin County, where he remained six months. At twenty he was a rancher working for himself.

Six years later Mr. Cerini married Miss Frances Calzalscia, also a native of Switzerland and they have become the parents of eight children. Mary is the wife of Frank Allison, the well-known rancher near Burrel; Lucy has become Mrs. Thomas Duffy, and resides in Fresno, where her husband is employed with the Valley Ice Company; Edith married Neil Beck, at Easton; Rosa is Mrs. W. D. Lewis; John is in the navy; and Sadie, George and Chester, the three youngest, are at home. Mrs. Cerini's parents were John and Mary (Pefferini) Calzalscia, and she has a brother and two sisters. She also was born in the Canton Ticino, and came to California when a girl, after which her father became a successful dairyman.

For twenty years Mr. Cerini ran a cheese factory, and sold his product in Fresno. Now, besides 850 acres of land in Sonoma County, he owns 3,000 acres near Riverdale, on which he raises beef cattle. His handsome, two-story house he built twelve years ago. He has become a man of affairs, as might be expected, and is a director in the Dairyman's (State) Bank at Valley Ford, in Sonoma County. At first he leased his land, then bought; and when the railway was built through here in 1893, he was one of the active promoters.

JOHN FRANKLIN MAXWELL.—The oldest photographer now doing business in Fresno, who has by his years of careful and conscientious application to his art made a success and high standing for himself, is John Franklin Maxwell, born in St. George, Tucker County, W. Va., on February 16, 1867. His father, Rufus, a native of Weston, Lewis County, then old Virginia, was a surveyor by profession and surveyed much of that region; he also built and owned a grist and saw mill on Horse Shoe Run, a tributary of the Cheat River. The last ten years, he lived retired, in the enjoyment of competence. Mr. Maxwell's mother, Sarah Jane Bonnefield, also a native of Tucker County, comes of a prominent old Virginia family, the ancestors of which owned a farm on the Potomac where Washington, D. C. now stands.

Mr. Maxwell is the third youngest of ten children, who grew up, eight of whom are now living. He lived in St. George, until he was fourteen, then went to Weston, Lewis County with his Grandfather Maxwell, attended Weston Academy, and then had one term at St. George Academy in St. George. He afterwards entered Northern Indiana State Normal at Valparaiso, where he was graduated in 1889, with the degree B. S. He then took a special course in art for one year.

On December 25, 1889, he arrived in Fresno, engaged in teaching for three terms in Fresno County, then worked for two years as reporter for the Fresno Expositor. After that he went back East and in Iowa, July 31, 1894, he was married to Iona V. Piper, born in Osceola, Iowa. After his marriage, he followed photography for one year at Valparaiso, Ind., and was in the same business in Parsons, W. Va., for one year. In 1896 he returned to Fresno and began his work as a photographer where he has conducted his studio ever since. In 1898 he took in A. C. Mudge as a partner and the business has been Maxwell & Mudge since that time. His excellent results show his efforts to please the public.

Aside from his art, he is interested in viticulture and horticulture and owns a fifteen-acre tract on Blackstone Avenue where he makes his home with his family. The death of his wife February 26, 1904, left him with five children: Harold, who served in the Aviation Section of the United States Army and is now attending the University of Pennsylvania; Raymond, Hugh, Iona and Emma, twins.

Mr. Maxwell was married a second time on July 11, 1906, to Miss Ida Phillips, at Little Rock, Ark., she being a native of Little Rock. They have four children: Doris, Vivian, Edward, and John F., Jr.

Mr. Maxwell is a member of Central California Lodge No. 343, I. O. O. F. of which he is treasurer. He is also a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood, the Fresno Chamber of Commerce for the last twenty years, and belongs to the Photographers Association of America.

CHRISTOPH GERINGER.—A hard-working and successful farmer who is also a very fine cabinetmaker and woodworker, is Christoph Geringer, who came to Fresno in May, 1902. He was born at Iblonovka, near Volga, Russia, on August 3, 1877, and his father was also Christoph Geringer, a farmer, now retired in the neighborhood where he has lived eighty-six years. His wife was Catherine Keck before her marriage; and she died in 1898, the mother of five boys and two girls, all of whom save one of the sons are still living.

Christoph, Jr., was the youngest of all of these, and while he grew up on the farm, he attended the public school of the locality. At sixteen, according to Russian custom, he was apprenticed to a cabinetmaker for three years. Thereafter he engaged in the manufacture of furniture, and these he made by hand with such skill that he could sell far more than he could produce.

On December 27, 1899, Mr. Geringer married Miss Annie Elizabeth Rudolf, a native of the same locality from which he came, and the daughter of Rudolph Rudolph, a farmer. Her mother's maiden name was Maggie Ford, and both of these parents are living. Mrs. Geringer was the third oldest of six children.

Three years after marriage Mr. and Mrs. Geringer decided to come to the United States; and on May 15, 1902, they arrived at Fresno. For a month Mr. Geringer was employed by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, but attracted by better wages, he went to work in the Prescott Brickyard. When again he quit, it was to pick grapes; and after that he tried blasting hardpan, which he followed two winters, while in the summer time he worked on the hay press for Alexander Will.

In 1907 Mr. Geringer bought forty acres of the Balfour Guthrie Company, situated twelve miles east of Fresno on Ventura Avenue; and later he sold ten acres and kept the remaining thirty. This tract he improved as a vineyard, and managed it until November 29, 1917, when he sold it at a profit.

It was then that Mr. Geringer located in Barstow Colony, where he bought forty acres of land fourteen miles from Fresno. Since then he has been engaged chiefly in raising Thompson seedless grapes. In 1918 he built himself a modern residence. Besides their own daughter, Elizabeth, they are raising a niece, Marie Geringer. The family attend the Lutheran Church at Highland.

Mr. Geringer is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and also the California Peach Growers, Inc.; and whenever he can, he lends a helping hand to advance their aims. He also assists in advancing local interests generally, for both Mr. and Mrs. Geringer are proud of the country and county of their adoption.

ILHERO MARÇEL.—Born in Basses-Pyrénées, France, on January 25, 1886, Ilhero Marcel was the son of farmers there, who still reside on the old home farm where Ilhero was reared. He received a good education in the local schools, and assisted his father on the farm until he entered the Twenty-fourth Regiment of Field Artillery in the French Army, where he served a period of two years. After receiving his honorable discharge, he spent about one year at Pau, and then concluded to cast in his lot on the Pacific Coast. His brother Simon had preceded him two years and was living in Fresno County; so Ilhero came hither. For two seasons he was employed in the sawmills at Hume and for two more in lumbering on Pine Ridge, while during the winters he was engaged in farming and stock-raising. Next he was employed in the Hector Bumess vineyard for eighteen months, and then for a short time in dairying with his brother at Kerman. In 1917 he entered the employ of J. Bidegaray, and since then has been one of the foremen on his ranch. He is a very reliable young man, conscientious and thorough in his work, and alert to protect the interests of his employer. He is a member of the French Hospital Association in San Francisco. Politically, he is a Republican.

CONRAD SCHNEIDER.—Fresno County has proven a "land of milk and honey" for the people of Samara, Russia, numbers of whom have made the journey here in the past twenty years and found a haven from the hard conditions at home. Among these, Conrad Schneider has been here since a lad of sixteen. Born in Gugges, Samara, March 19, 1886, his father, George, was a farmer in that country and brought his family to Fresno in 1902; he is still a resident of Fresno; the mother, Anna Barbara (Felzing) Schneider, died here in 1912.

Of their family, four boys and two girls are still living, and Conrad is the second youngest; he was raised on the farm in Russia till reaching the age of sixteen, receiving his education in the public schools there. Coming to Fresno in 1902 with his parents, he went to work to assist his father on his ranch on White's Bridge road. When reaching twenty-one years, he began for himself, and for three years engaged in baling hay on contract with his brother George. He then did general teaming in Fresno, and finally ventured in ranch work for himself, leasing for one year, and then bought a twenty-acre ranch in Barstow near Biola; this he improved and set out to

vineyard and alfalfa, sold it, and bought another ranch in Barstow, adjoining the first, of twenty acres. This was improved to Thompson seedless vineyard and he operated it four years, a splendid ranch, and also bought twenty acres near Shields Avenue in Empire, improved it and sold, and in 1918 bought a ranch of forty acres on Shields Avenue in Empire, fourteen miles northwest of Fresno, a Thompson seedless vineyard. This he traded in July, 1919, for forty acres in peaches on Ashlin Avenue, Biola district.

Mr. Schneider was married, in Fresno, on October 22, 1909, to Miss Annie Huber, born in Zaumora, Samara, Russia, a daughter of Henry Huber who brought his family here in 1900 and is a viticulturist in the Empire district; she was educated in the Fresno schools. Two children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schneider, Henry and Elsie. The family attends the Lutheran Church in Fresno. Mr. Schneider is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and of the Peach Growers, Inc.

DOMINIQUE MARTINTO.—Born near Osses, Canton Bigory, Basses-Pyrenees, France, April 12, 1876, Dominique Martinto is the son of Michel Martinto, a farmer, stone-mason and builder. Dominique being next to the youngest of his eight children, he received a good education in the schools of his native place. When twenty-one he entered the French army, serving as man of ordnance in the Fourteenth Artillery Regiment for three years, when he received an honorable discharge.

In 1901, Mr. Martinto came to California, during the first year being employed at the lime kiln at Tehachapi. He then accepted employment in the lumber yards in San Pedro, where he continued for seven years, and during these years he purchased lots and built up a valuable residence property in San Pedro which he still owns.

Wishing to engage in ranching, Mr. Martinto removed, with his family, to Fresno County. He was for a time employed by Thompson Brothers, and he helped to set some of the trees on Kearney Boulevard. Next he ran a dairy in Parent Colony for two and a half years. In 1914 he bought his present place of forty acres, located on Washington Street, one mile south of Malaga. Here he is engaged in raising malagas, sultanas and Thompson seedless grapes, as well as figs and alfalfa. He also leases an additional thirty acres of vineyard, which he operates in connection with his own.

Mr. Martinto was married, in Tehachapi, to Miss Marie Amestoy, also born in Basses-Pyrenees, and who came to California in 1901. They have four children: Victor, Grace, Lyda, and Jeannette. The family are members of St. Alphonso's Church, Fresno. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

GEORGE SCHEIDT.—A well-informed rancher who, through persistent efforts has finally acquired property and a well-earned competency, and who has "done his bit" towards developing the county concerning whose future he is so optimistic, is George Scheidt, who was born in Stepnoia, Samara, Russia, on June 5, 1867, the son of George Scheidt, a farmer there. In 1872 he removed with his family some 300 miles on the frontier from Stepnoia and followed farming where the stock or old tribe of Mohammed still lived; but after two years he returned to Stepnoia and there followed agricultural pursuits until he died. His wife also died there, the mother of four boys and four girls, among whom the subject of this interesting review is the fifth in the order of birth.

From his fifth to his seventh year he lived on the frontier and so became familiar with scenes not known to many; and there he was educated in the public schools. At fifteen he was apprenticed to learn the shoemaker's trade, and later he was married to Miss Katie Schiebelhut, who was also born and reared at Stepnoia.

In 1891 he removed with his wife and one child to Persia, crossing the Caspian Sea en route; and there he worked at his trade and also at horticultural

ture and viticulture. However, he did not like the native people there, so he concluded to come back to Stepania where he worked at his trade. Early in 1896 he emigrated with his family to the United States, and on March 28 arrived in Cincinnati. He worked at his trade in shoe-manufacturing and other establishments until he decided to come to the Pacific Coast. He was employed by different contractors on the construction of buildings here and also in lumber yards and at planing mills, and at lumbering at Millwood; and while thus engaged he purchased forty acres in the Locan district, later selling half. The twenty acres he retained he set out to vineyard, and erected a residence and the necessary outbuildings; and finally he sold it at a good profit. Then he was janitor of the Edgerly Building for five years and during this time he bought twenty acres in Highland Colony, between Jensen and Railroad avenues. This he set out as a vineyard of Thompson seedless and Muscats, and finally resigned from his place in Edgerly Building. He moved on to the ranch and built a modern residence, barns, and a pumping plant, and fenced in and otherwise improved the place; and after six years he sold it, in 1918, at a good profit.

Then he purchased his present modern bungalow residence on F Street where he resides with his family, and two months later he bought an orchard and vineyard of twenty acres on Olive and McKinley avenues, northwest of Fresno, which he devotes to raising peaches, Thompson seedless and alfalfa.

Eight children are still living of this union. Louisa is Mrs. Henry Schiebellhut of Fresno; Henry is of the same city; Mollie is Mrs. Miller and lives in the McKinley district; Paulina is Mrs. Howard of Fresno; while George, John, Lydia and Dora are still at home. Mr. Scheidt is a member of Zion Lutheran Church and is superintendent of the Sunday School.

When Mr. Scheidt first came to Fresno, he bought the second crop of a ten-acre vineyard and made \$300. The next year, he rented the vineyard and lost \$600. The third year he bought the second crop in several vineyards and made \$1,000; and then he built a residence in Fresno. So he continued leasing and farming on the side until he was able to establish himself in viticulture and horticulture.

JOHN LUNG, JR.—An enterprising and successful rancher of the Barstow district, John Lung, Jr., was born in Skadofsky, Straub Colony, Samara, Russia, June 18, 1885, a son of John and Catherine (Kerner) Lung. The father was a farmer in that country, and in 1900 brought his wife and children to Fresno, where he followed ranching; he now lives retired in Fresno, with his good wife. Of their six children, five are now living. John, Jr., is the second oldest in the family. He received his education in the public schools of his native land, and in November, 1900, came with his parents to Fresno. Here he went to work on ranches and vineyards to assist his father, and also found employment in the raisin packing-houses.

In 1911, Mr. Lung, Jr., bought his present ranch of forty acres, twelve and one-half miles west of Fresno and one-half mile north of Shields Avenue. He improved the land himself and thirty acres of the ranch are devoted to Thompson seedless, while the balance is in alfalfa. It is under irrigation from the ditch, but Mr. Lung has also installed a pumping-plant. His thriving vineyards and alfalfa are evidences of the capable rancher.

The marriage of Mr. Lung, Jr., occurred on April 26, 1904, in Fresno, and united him with Marie Hergenrader, also born in Samara, and who came to California with her parents while still in her teens. Seven children have come to Mr. and Mrs. Lung: William; Henry; Edward; Emma; Harry; Marie, and Elsie. The family attends the Congregational Lutheran Church of Fresno, and Mr. Lung is active in the Sunday School work, and is superintendent of the branch school at Barstow. In political matters he supports the Republican party, and he is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

SALLABERRY BROTHERS.—The firm of Sallaberry Brothers, composed of Bernard and Pascal Sallaberry and engaged in farming, stock-raising and dairying at Rolinda, is doing much to improve and develop the land hereabouts to the growing of alfalfa. These enterprising young men were born at Helette, Basses-Pyrénées, France, Bernard on September 18, 1882, and Pascal on April 13, 1884. They are the sons of Pierre and Catherine Sallaberry, farmer folk at Helette. The father is deceased but the mother still resides on the old home place. The brothers had the usual experiences of the youth of the neighborhood, learning farming, going to school, and serving the required time in the French army. They belonged to the Forty-ninth Infantry, Bernard serving ten months, and Pascal for two years.

In 1906 Bernard Sallaberry migrated to Los Angeles, Cal., arriving in July, and immediately found employment on a ranch. His brother Pascal joined him in 1907, and the two with G. Oxarat formed a partnership and leased a ranch at Puente, where they raised vegetables, grain and alfalfa for over two years. Next they moved to Palms, where they leased sixty-one acres. This ranch they improved to alfalfa and stocked it with a dairy herd of thirty-five cows, selling their product in Los Angeles. They also leased other lands and farmed to grain and hay. At the end of five years they moved their dairy to Westminster. One year later Bernard sold his interest to Mr. Oxarat, and his brother sold the next year. After a short time at Salinas, Bernard came to Merced, where he was employed on a ranch until 1917. He and his brother then came to Fresno County and leased the Matias Erro place at Rolinda, where they are engaged in general farming and dairying. The place comprises 240 acres and is irrigated from the ditch as well as from two pumping plants. They are rapidly improving it to an alfalfa and stock farm, having about 100 head of cattle, of which seventy are milk cows. The brothers are very reliable, energetic and progressive young men, and are well liked by all who know them. Politically, they are firm believers in the principles of the Republican party.

JACK DEIS.—A young man of much promise, who is already making good to a remarkable degree in the county, Jack Deis can take just pride in his accomplishments since he first located in Fresno County. Born in Saradop, on the Volga, Samara, Russia, his father, Peter, was a blacksmith in that country, who went to South America, and then came to Fresno County, and died here; the mother, Katrina Elizabeth (Rudolph) Deis, died in the old home. Jack Deis was the only son who grew to maturity, and was raised in Saradop and attended the public schools. From a boy he learned the blacksmith trade under his father, and also that of wheelwright. When eighteen years old he began the blacksmith business for himself. His marriage, on October 21, 1903, united him with Miss Mollie Scharf, born in Skadofski, Russia, a daughter of John and Anna Katherine (Horn) Scharf, the father a carpenter and builder and farmer in the old country; he came to Fresno in 1907 and resides in the Vinland district, engaged in viticulture.

In February, 1907, Mr. and Mrs. Deis located in Fresno, and his first employment was at ranching for six months; he then bought out Martin Hall at Rolinda, and continued his blacksmithing business for one year, then moved his shop to Fresno, on South F Street; his next shop was at Lone Star, which he sold, and started the shop at Barstow, engaged in blacksmithing there two years and disposed of his shop to buy his present ranch of twenty acres on Barstow Avenue, where he has built his residence and devotes his acreage to a seventeen-acre peach orchard, with the balance in alfalfa. He also owned ten acres at Dickenson station, which he improved to Thompson seedless grapes.

Two children, Peter and Jessie Rudolph, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Deis to brighten their household. The family attends the Lutheran Church at Fresno. Mr. Deis is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and of the California Peach Growers, Inc.

ALBERT ROUGNY.—Born in Gap, Hautes-Alpes, France, April 7, 1885, Albert Rougny is the son of Casimir and Eugenia (Rico) Rougny, farmer folk in that country, who passed their entire lives there. Albert is the youngest of their nine children. After completing the public schools he followed working on the farm until 1907, when he entered a regiment of engineers in the French army. In 1908-09 he served in the campaign in Morocco for nineteen months, when he was returned to France and honorably discharged after two years' service.

Mr. Rougny was desirous to try his fortune on the Pacific Coast as so many of his countrymen were doing, his wishes being fulfilled January 22, 1911, when he found himself in Fresno, Cal. For a time he was employed in vineyards, next he spent twenty-two months in Idaho, and then came back to California. Next we find him in Utah, following the sheep business. In Bingham city, Utah, June 23, 1914, he was married to Miss Adrienne Rico, also a native of Gap, France, the daughter of Delphine (Bonnet) Rico.

In 1915, Mr. Rougny came back to Fresno County, engaging in viticulture at Clovis. In 1918 he purchased his present vineyard of ten acres, one and a half miles east of Clovis, which he devotes to the culture of Thompson seedless. He also leases about eighty-five acres of vineyards, on thirty-five acres of which he is raising muscats, and grain hay on the balance. He is industrious and painstaking, giving the vineyards under his charge the best of care, and he has established a record for thoroughness, honesty, and uprightness in his work and business dealings. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company and the California Peach Growers, Inc. Mr. and Mrs. Rougny have four children: Eugene; Albert, Jr.; Augusta, and Bertha. In his political views Mr. Rougny is a Republican.

J. HENRY DIENER.—A self-made man, quick to see an opportunity and to act accordingly, J. Henry Diener has, since 1905, been a contractor for securing and furnishing men for labor on different ranches in the county, first for McIndoo, and then for Wylie Giffen, and for the Kearney ranch, and in the meantime has developed a ranch of his own and accepted positions as foreman for the raisin packing-houses in the seasons, all speaking well for the enterprise and energy of our subject. Born in Warenburg, Samara, Russia, on March 27, 1887, he is a son of Peter and Margareta (Constance) Diener, who were farmer folk in the old country, and in 1904 brought their family to Fresno, where the parents are now living retired.

J. Henry Diener was the oldest in a family of six children, and received his education in the public schools of Russia. In the fall of 1903 the family emigrated to Winnipeg, Canada, and in January of 1904 they arrived in Fresno. Here the young man worked in town for one year, then entered the employ of Robert McIndoo as foreman on his alfalfa ranch, continuing for about two years, when he went, in 1907, as foreman on the M. Theo. Kearney ranch, and remained with him until his death, in 1911, after which he remained as foreman of the ranch until 1917. As early as 1911 he had bought his forty-acre ranch in Barstow Colony and improved it, built his residence and with his family made that his home, and in May of 1917 he resigned his position as foreman and devoted his entire time to his ranch work, with the exception of the fruit seasons, when, in 1917, he accepted a position offered by the California Associated Raisin Company as foreman of the packers in the 25 House; and in 1918 again accepted a place with the raisin company as foreman of Plant 4. His ranch is in Thompson seedless grapes and orchards and alfalfa—a splendid ranch and well improved.

The marriage of Mr. Diener, on July 8, 1905, in Fresno, united him with Maggie Steitz, born in Straub, Russia, and who came here with her parents when a girl. They have four children: Emma; Lillie; Elsie; and Mabel. Mr. Diener is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and a believer in cooperation for the fruit-growers.

ANIELLO SASSANO.—A viticulturist and business man of Clovis who has been a resident of California since June 13, 1888, Aniello Sassano was born in Naples, Italy, May 27, 1865, where he received his education in the public schools. At the age of fifteen he was apprenticed at the shoemakers' trade, continuing until 1888, when he migrated to Fresno, Cal. He worked at his trade for Radin & Kamp until 1898, when he started in business for himself on I Street. In 1907 he located in Clovis, since which time he has been in the shoe and shoe-repair business.

As early as 1905, Mr. Sassano bought twenty acres three miles northwest of Clovis, which he has since brought to a high state of cultivation and devotes to raising muscats, Thompson's and wine grapes. He has built a residence and other farm buildings, and here he makes his home, with his wife and children.

Mr. Sassano was married in Fresno to Miss Virginia Marino, born in Torino, Piemonte, Italy, and who came to California in 1897. They have three children: Marion, who is assisting on the farm; Lawrence, attending Clovis High School; and Paul. Fraternally, Mr. Sassano is a member of the American Order of Foresters and the Druids. As a viticulturist he is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and politically he is a Republican.

HIPPOLYT PELLISSIER.—A resident of California since 1904, Hippolyt Pellissier was born at Lafare, Hautes-Alpes, France, July 24, 1879, the son of Deserie and Mariana Pellissier, farmer folk in Hautes-Alpes, where they spent their entire lives. Hippolyt was the second youngest of the thirteen children born to this worthy couple.

From a youth Hippolyt Pellissier grew up on the farm, receiving a good education in the local schools. In 1902 he migrated to New York City, where he was employed for two years. In 1904 he crossed the continent to Fresno, Cal., and for some years was employed at ranching. He then purchased twenty acres of land near Clovis, which he improved to a vineyard, also setting out an avenue of peaches. Disposing of the ranch in 1914, he leased a vineyard on California Avenue west of Fresno. In October of 1915 he purchased his present thirty-acre ranch in Vinland Colony, which he devotes to raising Thompson seedless vines, apricots and alfalfa, and to dairying. He deserves much credit for his enterprise and the energy displayed in improving his ranch. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

HENRY P. NILMEIER.—Although born and reared in a foreign land, H. P. Nilmeier has been a resident of Fresno County for the past twenty-seven years, and has met with deserved success, becoming a worthy citizen of this great commonwealth and a worker for the upbuilding of his section. He was born in Stepania, Samara, Russia, in 1863, a son of George and Margareta (Horg) Nilmeier, farmer folk of their native land and both now deceased. They were the parents of eleven children, two girls and nine boys, and with his brothers and sisters, H. P. was reared on the home farm. For three years he served in the Russian Army in the regular artillery, and became gunner's mate. Later with his brother, August, he engaged in grain-raising, until a dry year discouraged them. Another brother, Phillip, had come to Fresno about 1886, and having met with success, his example induced H. P. to try his fortunes in the new country and in 1892 he arrived in Fresno. He secured work on the section gang for the Southern Pacific Railway; the work was hard, but he determined he would not quit until he had become foreman, and in the third year he gained that promotion, and ran a section out of Fresno, and also Lindsay. He continued his work as foreman until 1900, when he resigned and started in the mercantile business, building a store on E Street and Ventura Avenue, and engaging in the grocery business.

Mr. Nilmeier continued in business for a period of six years, when he sold out and purchased an eighty-acre ranch on Valentine and Marks Avenues. He put in extensive improvements; rebuilt ditches, improved the land and set out the entire acreage to vines, and built his residence on the ranch. He later sold forty acres, retaining the other forty on which he raises Muscats, Malagas and Emperors, and has a two-and-one-half-acre olive orchard. He recently built a fine residence and lives as a modern rancher.

The marriage of Mr. Nilmeier occurred in Russia, January 11, 1883, and united him with Miss Marie Laman, a native of that country and a daughter of Harry P. and Anna E. (Schiebelhut) Laman, the father formerly a blacksmith but now retired and in his eighty-seventh year; the mother is also of even age with him and they are the parents of ten children, all girls, Marie being the fifth oldest.

Mr. and Mrs. Nilmeier have had nine children: Conrad O., a rancher in Fresno County; Margaret, Mrs. Weisbrod of Barstow Colony; Christene, Mrs. Schiebelhut of Madison district; Mary, Mrs. Bagley of Fresno; Annie, Mrs. Patten of Fresno; August, ranching in Madison district; Emma, Lydia, and Dora, also at home and attending the Fresno schools. The three oldest children were born in Russia; the others in Fresno. The family attends the Lutheran Church in Fresno, and is respected and esteemed in the community. Mr. Nilmeier is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and a man of fine character, well liked in the community; his wife is a most estimable woman and has proven a worthy helpmate.

MARTIN IRIGARAY.—A stockman located on Whites Bridge road thirteen miles west of Fresno, is Martin Irigaray, a native of France, born at Lecunberry, Basses Pyrenees, October 7, 1881, the fourth oldest of ten children born to Jean and Marie (Eiharabide) Irigaray, farmer folk in that country; the children are all living six of them being in California. Martin, like the other youth of his country, learned farming from a boy and attended the local school. From reports of better opportunities on the Pacific Coast he came to Fresno in September, 1900, and immediately found employment with Peter Arostigny, a sheep man at Reedley. He continued with him steadily for thirty-two months, during which time he saved his earnings with a view of engaging in sheep raising on his own account. He then found he had the means to purchase 600 head of sheep which he ranged on the plains and in the mountains and two years later leased a ranch at Huron which was his headquarters for about ten years. In Fresno June 29, 1910, he was married, being united with Miss Marie Yraceburu, a native of Navarra, Spain, the daughter of Raymond and Fermina (Erro) Yraceburu, farmers in Spain, where the mother died, while her father now lives in Fresno County. Mrs. Irigaray is the seventh in order of birth of their ten children all of whom are living, nine being in the United States; she came to California the year of her marriage to Mr. Irigaray. In 1914 he left his business in charge of his brother and with his wife and little girl made a visit back to his old home. He had been there only a month when the World War broke out and he was ordered into the ranks, to which he responded, serving in the Forty-ninth Regiment of Infantry, Bayonne troops, doing active service near Rheims, until he was stricken with typhoid pneumonia and after three months in the hospital he recovered sufficiently to be mustered out. When he had reached a state of health permitting him, he returned to Fresno in the fall of 1915 with his wife and two little girls, a baby having been born while he was serving in the army. He resumed his former business of raising sheep, at Huron, until he purchased and moved onto his present place of eighty acres on Whites Bridge road in 1918, which he has developed into an alfalfa farm and from which place he carries on the stock business. He is one of the stockholders in the Growers National Bank of Fresno. The three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Irigaray are Jennie, Laura, and Genevieve.

ANTONIO BERTI.—Among the worthy families of Firebaugh and the only one in the vicinity of Firebaugh entitled to wear a gold star on account of being bereaved of a son in the late war is Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Berti who are bearing their grief nobly and philosophically.

Antonio Berti was born in Lucca, Italy, March 22, 1850, was reared to farm work on his father, Angelo Berti's farm to which he gave all of his attention after his school days were over until he was called into the Italian army at the age of twenty. He served the required time in an Infantry Regiment and was honorably discharged.

He was married in Lucca in 1874, to Miss Maria Pellegrini, after which he engaged in farming until 1892. Wishing to try his fortune in California, where so many of his countrymen were doing well, he left his family as comfortable as possible and came to Firebaugh, Fresno County. He immediately obtained employment with Miller and Lux, under Poso Schultz, as a gardener where he continued steadily for ten years. Going to McCloud he was a fireman with the McCloud Lumber Company. In 1903 he returned to his home visiting his family, who joined him in McCloud in 1904, and where he remained until 1911. He then returned to Firebaugh, where he has since engaged in business and made his home.

Six children were born to this worthy couple: Ida, Mrs. Zavelli; and Emma, Mrs. Giuntini, reside in Italy; Adolfo also resides in Italy with his family, he having served three years at the front in the World War without receiving a scratch; Amelia, Mrs. Christofani of McCloud; Julia is the wife of Bruno Molanca of Firebaugh; Angelo was in charge of his father's affairs when he was called to the colors in the 319th Engineer Corps, United States Army,—went overseas, was taken with influenza on the transport and died three days after he reached Liverpool, where he is buried. He was a splendid example of young manhood, and his death was a severe loss to his family and friends. He was popular as a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Druids.

CHRISTIAN ARNST.—A successful rancher and his devoted wife, whose intelligent industry has contributed in the great work of building up the county, are Christian and Marie Arnst, active supporters of the cooperative work of the California Associated Raisin Company. He was born at Osinofke, Samara, Russia, on February 16, 1855, the son of Peter Arnst, a farmer, and the oldest of four children and the only one in America.

He was brought up on a farm and educated in the common schools of his home district; and in 1877 he joined an infantry regiment in the Russian Army and served in the campaign against Turkey until the close of the war. He was married at his home to Miss Marie Enrich, a native of that section and the daughter of Casper and Anna Eurich, farmers who had five children, among whom she is the oldest.

After his marriage, Mr. Arnst engaged in farming and became foreman of a large ranch. He was fairly prosperous; but hearing splendid reports from California picturing the unrivalled agricultural opportunities here, he concluded to emigrate to the Pacific Coast, and on August 7, 1891, arrived in Fresno.

In 1893 he bought lots on Cherry and Church streets, and built a residence, and then he purchased twenty acres at Malaga, and raised alfalfa. Later he bought twenty acres more, which he leveled and checked and also planted to alfalfa, and after a while he added forty acres, and improved that. He had eighty acres in alfalfa and Thompson seedless and Muscat grapes, and then bought fifty acres across the road, all of which he still owns. He rents out the vineyards and operates the balance himself.

Two children have blessed the union of this worthy couple. John is a rancher at Monmouth, Fresno County; and David resides at Fresno. The family are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

AUGUST J. YOUNG.—The genial and enterprising proprietor of the general merchandise store at Vinland, Fresno County, August J. Young, is a native of Westergotland, Sweden, where he was born on September 1, 1859. He was reared on a farm in his native land and followed that occupation until 1888, when he became imbued with a desire to see more of the world, especially the United States of America, and to which country he immigrated, landing in New York City, but locating at Peale, Pa., where he found employment at coal mining. Being very industrious and economical, in three years he had saved enough money to enter Augustana College, located in Rock Island, Ill., where he remained for five years, when he returned to Peale, Pa., and engaged in the general merchandise business and eventually bought a store building.

Mr. Young became very successful in his undertaking, remaining in business at Peale until 1911, when on account of his wife's health he sold his store and took a trip through Canada, Washington, Oregon and on to California. He had thought to make Fresno his place of residence, but his wife preferred living in the country, and in 1912 they located in Vinland. Here he purchased a small store, bought a lot and moved his business across the street and enlarged his stock of general merchandise. Mr. Young is a successful merchant of many years' experience, and through his efficient management is building up a growing and successful business in Vinland and vicinity. In 1916 he built a large residence and installed a pumping-plant.

On April 15, 1905, at Grass Flat, Pa., Mr. Young was united in marriage with Miss Ida Blomquist, a native of Sweden. They have a son, Fritz Einar. Mr. Young is a member of the Lutheran Church, and is regarded as one of Vinland's most enterprising citizens.

OCTAVE VALERE DARGELES.—A self-made native of France, of exceptional originality and resourcefulness and a good student of human affairs, who has made his living round about Fresno and is a good booster for Central California, is Octave Valere Dargeles, who was born at Montegut-Arros, Department du Gers, in the Province of Gascony, France, on July 24, 1867, the son of Raymond Dargeles, a farmer who put in eleven years in the United States. After living in New Orleans and other districts of Louisiana, he returned to France where, at the age of thirty, he married, in 1861, Francine Dazet with whom he lived in the same place. These parents, who died in France, had four children, the youngest being the subject of our sketch. Helene became the wife of Martial Gauthier, a farmer in Algeria, Africa; Joseph is a farmer in Gascony, France, and is well-to-do; Jean Marie came to California with Octave, and they worked together as partners in the bakery business. Jean married Nancy Bonnabel of Fresno, who was born in France, and he died at San Jose in 1897 leaving a widow and one child, Caesar Raymond, who is now adopted as a member of Octave's family.

Octave's mother died when he was seventeen months old. Unhappily, the maternal grandmother, who was a woman of means and education, also died, when he was eleven years of age. When a lad he attended the village schools in the winter until his grandmother's death, and then, still in France, he worked on his father's farm. On December 12, 1885, however, the two brothers, Jean Marie and Octave took passage for New Orleans, landing there on January 6, 1886, during a storm and "cold wave" which covered New Orleans under six inches of ice. They stopped in New Orleans for thirteen months, while they worked at gardening, at twelve dollars a month; and then, having decided that California offered more than any other state in the Union, they came on to the Pacific Coast.

Arriving at San Francisco on January 7, 1887, the brothers worked at various jobs. Octave learned the baker's trade at San Jose and ran a bakery for Espetallier at Bakersfield for sixteen and a half months, after which he

went to San Francisco and there lived for three months at Oakland. On November 23, 1890, he came to Fresno and soon after started to build the French Bakery there. Jean Marie came with him and helped form the partnership of the two brothers which continued until Jean died. Then Octave bought out the latter's interest, and continued the bakery until December 1, 1914. He built his bakery on K Street, near Fresno, and ran the largest baking establishment in that city.

Having achieved this success at Fresno, Mr. Dargeles in 1911 came to Caruthers and bought his 480-acre farm, which he has partly improved with a modern dairy barn, silos, corrals, branding chutes and other necessary adjuncts of a first class dairy farm. Mr. Dargeles, for six months out of every year, uses forty-one horsepower of electric power for pumping and other farm work. He also put in six wells and five pumping plants, one of which is run by a twenty horsepower dynamo, capable of irrigating 200 acres and supplied by two deep wells. In studying out the plans for the dairy barn and extensive yards and corrals, Mr. Dargeles was ably assisted by his four boys. The two eldest of these having gone into the army, Mr. Dargeles has rented out 400 acres for a dairy farm, and he expects to build a residence on the eighty acres nearest to Caruthers; he also intends to set from fifty to sixty-five acres of Thompsons and Malagas.

In 1894 Mr. Dargeles was married to Victorine G. Bonnabel, a native of Forest St. Julien, Hautes Alpes, the Province of Dauphine, France, by whom he has had seven children. Ernest O. is at present a mine layer on the Housatonic, operating in the North Sea; Caesar Raymond, the adopted boy, is an instructor of aeroplane gunners; Henry Julius and Frank Octave are with their father; the fifth-born, named Octavia, died when she was eleven months old; the sixth in the order of birth is now eleven years old; and there are Francina Mary Gabriel and Raymond.

Mr. Dargeles has voted since 1892 when he became a naturalized citizen of the United States, and he has fitted himself for further responsibility in civic affairs by reading extensively, studying philosophy, religion, economics, industrialism and sociology; he is a Socialist. He helped to organize the Caruthers Cheese Factory, and is ever ready to aid in any movement for the community's advancement.

N. P. BECK.—Natives of Denmark coming to this country have shown a special liking for the land, whether from an inherent love of conquest or not, but whatever the reason they seem determined to wrest from the soil that success that only the industrious may claim. A splendid example is seen in the case of N. P. Beck, who was born in Aarhus, Jylland, Denmark, March 6, 1885. His father, Neils Nielsen Beck, was a farmer, and his mother, before her marriage Metta Marie Beck. They are both living, and are the parents of eight children, five in Denmark and three in the United States. These last are, N. P., J. P. I., ranchers at Empire and Johannes, who was in the United States Service.

Mr. Beck was brought up on a farm, and received a public school education. At the age of seventeen he was apprenticed as gardener and florist for four years. In 1906 he came to New York City and followed his trade until 1907, when he came to California. Fresno County was his objective point, for he had become interested here from reading of the vineyards and orchards, and he wanted a milder climate. Upon arrival he went to work in a dairy at Laton, remaining there for five months, and then came to Empire Colony where he engaged with Mr. A. C. Hansen in vineyard work. After five months here he went to Palo Alto as a florist, and spent eighteen months in this place. He returned to Empire Colony and began farming. He has twenty-six acres in vineyard, Thompson seedless and Muscats, and the balance in alfalfa. Mr. Beck is a member of the Danish Brotherhood of Fresno, and also of the California Associated Raisin Company.

CONRAD WINTER.—A resident of Fresno County for the past seventeen years, Conrad Winter has taken advantage of his opportunities and is now engaged in ranching on his own account and meeting with deserved success. Born in Skadopki, Samara, Russia, October 3, 1875, he is a son of Conrad and Katherine Elizabeth (Bischel) Winter, farmer folk of that country; the father passed away in 1889, and the mother is still living there. Conrad was the fourth oldest in a family of seven children, and was raised on the home farm, receiving his education in the public schools. When twenty-one he entered the Russian Army and served three years and eight months in the Regular Infantry, at the end of that period receiving his honorable discharge.

Seeking better opportunities than those afforded in his home environment, he made the long journey to Fresno in 1902, and after his arrival worked in the city and on ranches. His marriage occurred here, June 21, 1904, to Miss Katherine Schwabenland, also born in Russia, a daughter of Conrad and Katherine (Romish) Schwabenland, who brought their family here in 1894 and the father was engaged at farm work, then with Barrett & Hicks in the plumbing business, until his health failed and he retired; his death occurred here in 1915; the mother still resides in Fresno. They were the parents of nine children, two living, of whom Mrs. Winter was the oldest, and she received her education in the public schools of Fresno.

After his marriage, Mr. Winter continued his work in Fresno and in 1910 bought his ranch, twenty acres on Shields Avenue, in the Empire district; he made all the improvements on the raw land, built his home and other ranch buildings, and has fifteen acres in Thompson seedless vineyard, the balance devoted to orchard and alfalfa. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Winter, three living: Annie; Marie; and Christina. The family attends the Lutheran Church in Fresno. Mr. Winter is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and combines his industry with a spirit of cooperation and progress.

JOSEPH J. SILVEIRA.—A resident of Fresno County since September, 1888, and one of the oldest settlers of the Herndon section is Joseph J. Silveira, born on the Island of Flores, Azores, February 2, 1869. His father John made three trips to California, finally locating here, spending his last days at Merced being survived by his widow Marie Silveira who still makes her home in Merced, at the age of seventy-seven years. Joe Silveira, the eldest of their seven children, learned the stock business as a lad in his native land. He always had a desire to come to California as it was also his father's advice, who described California to him as God's country. So in the Fall of 1888 Mr. Silveira came to Stockton, Cal., where he worked for a sheep man and two months later came with him to Madera, then Fresno County, working for the same man for three years—without the loss of a day. When his employer sold out young Silveira had saved enough money to buy a flock of sheep and followed the business with success for many years. In February, 1900, he bought his present ranch at Herndon which has been his headquarters ever since. At one time he leased thousands of acres of land on which he raised grain, operating it with five big teams and combined threshers. He made a specialty of raising mules and has had some of the finest specimens in the county. He owns a 318-acre ranch in Tranquillity, and a 160-acre ranch on Madera Avenue near Kerman which he will improve to vines and alfalfa. He built and owns a warehouse at Herndon. Mr. Silveira was an organizer and is a director in the Growers National Bank of Fresno. In Oakland occurred the first marriage of Mr. Silveira to Marie Quiller of whom he was bereaved, leaving him five children: Marie, Jack, Joe, Mabel and David. He was married a second time at San Rafael to Anna Armas, and they have four children living: Maria, Fred, Louis and Elsie. Mr. Silveira is a member of the I. D. E. S. and U. P. E. C., and politically is a Republican.

LORENZ OLSEN.—A prosperous couple who had the best of advantages in their native country, coming from families comfortably situated, and who have made many friends at Rolinda although only recently located here, are Mr. and Mrs. Lorenz Olsen. He was born at Horsens, in Jutland, Denmark, on March 9, 1891, where he was reared on a farm, while attending the local schools. His father was Soren Olsen, a prosperous farmer who became the owner of several valuable farm properties, but who has sold all of them and now lives retired in Horsens. The mother, Mrs. Anna Olsen, died in 1917.

Lorenz was the second in the family of three children, and received a good common and high-school education, after which he assisted his father at farming. He served in the Third Company of the Twenty-third Battalion in the Danish Army, and was duly and honorably discharged. Hearing favorable reports of Fresno County, Mr. Olsen in 1916, came to America and on May 17th arrived at Fresno. For a few months he was employed on a large ranch at Burrel but on November 1st, in partnership with his brother, he purchased the present place of thirty acres at Rolinda, where he has since engaged in viticulture and dairying. He has twelve acres set out to Thompson seedless grapes, and ten acres in Sultana seedless, while the balance is planted to alfalfa. With C. Andersen he owns a Reo truck which he runs on a cream route, gathering cream for the Danish Creamery, and the truck covers over fifty miles every day between customers.

On December 21, 1916, Mr. Olsen was married in Fresno to Marie Erickson, who was also born in Jutland, Denmark, the daughter of Erick and Helena Eleanor Erickson, who still live in good circumstances near Horsens. Of their eleven children, four are in the United States, one having served in the United States Army. Mrs. Olsen received an excellent education in her native land. They have one child, Erick Andrew.

Mr. Olsen is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and is always ready to help in advancing the interests of the community.

HENRY MEISNER.—Beginning life under the unfavorable conditions prevalent in the old country, Henry Meisner has become a landowner and prosperous rancher in the country of his adoption, and by his own efforts has attained comfort for his declining years. Born in Bobofgina, Samara, Russia, July 22, 1872, he is a son of Adam and Margaret (Summer) Meisner, both now deceased in their native land, and the parents of five children.

The youngest of the family, Henry was reared on the home farm in Russia, and attended the public schools of Bobofgina. When twenty-one, he entered the Russian army in the artillery, and served at North Rastof for three years and eight months. On his return home he married there, in July, 1898, Miss Marie Buschel, also a native of that province. After marriage, Mr. Meisner engaged in farming in Russia for a time, but in 1903 he made the journey to the land of greater opportunity, and located in Fresno, his family joining him a year later. For the first five years he worked in a plumbing shop. In 1911 he bought his ranch of forty acres on Barstow Avenue, and engaged in the dairy business; he now is a viticulturist also, setting out Thompson seedless grapes, and meeting with the success made possible by habits of industry and thrift for which the Russian people are noted.

Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Meisner: John, who died, aged two years, in Russia; Marie, born in Russia, is now Mrs. Sipe of Barstow; John; Henry; and Adam. The family attends the Lutheran Church in Fresno and enjoys the comfort made possible by the parents' early planning. Mr. Meisner is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and a worker for the further upbuilding of his district.

ADAM METZLER.—A self-made man who is doing well in his chosen vocation, that of ranching, Adam Metzler was born in Bobofski, Samara, Russia, June 26, 1881, a son of Peter and Marie (Rudolph) Metzler, farmer folk of that country. He is the third oldest among seven children, and the only one in the United States. Brought up on a home farm, and attending the public schools, he followed farming with his father until his marriage, on November 22, 1907, to Miss Marie Quisnar, also born there, a daughter of Frederick and Elizabeth (Riechert) Quisnar, farmer folk and the parents of six children, of whom Marie was the second oldest.

In 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Metzler located in Fresno, and here he entered the employ of the California Produce Company, working up to the position of foreman. In 1912 he bought his ranch of twenty acres in the Biola district, built his residence and barns, and set about improving the property; half to be set to Thompson seedless vineyard, and the balance to alfalfa.

Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Metzler: Elizabeth; Peter; Bertha; Henry; Marie; and Martha. The family attends the Christ Lutheran Church in Fresno, of which Mr. Metzler has been trustee. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

CONRAD KINZEL.—An energetic American by adoption who has made a success by hard work and perseverance, that he is today a man of affairs, is Conrad Kinzel, who first came to Fresno in the late nineties. He was born in Priwalnoe, Samara, Russia, on February 5, 1870, the son of George Henry Kinzel, a farmer there, who married Catherine Leisle. The mother died, but the father is still living, seventy-two years of age.

There were twelve children in the family, and ten are living, while two are in the United States. One of these, a brother named Phillip, is in partnership with our subject. Conrad was brought up on a farm and attended the public schools; and he was fortunate in learning both the German and Russian languages.

He served five years in the Russian army as a member of the cavalry, being stationed near Warsaw on the German frontier; and in time he was honorably discharged. For two years he continued to work on his father's farm, and then he concluded to come to the United States. He was fortunate in the information given him about California, and was lucky in selecting Fresno as his future home.

On November 22, 1898, he arrived here, and he was employed on ranches for seven years. Having saved some money, he started in the grocery and meat business, on South F Street, one block south of his present store; and he there took into partnership Jacob P. Christian. They each had a capital of \$500; but at the end of the year he sold out. Then he worked for a year at farming and for another year was in the employ of August Steitz on F Street. He was next in the employ of H. B. Bier in his store on F Street, for nearly three years, and then he bought out Henry Rudolph, of Steitz & Rudolph, for \$2,000, and continued in business as Steitz & Company. He bought a half interest in the store and building and they continued together for nine years.

On January 27, 1919, Mr. Kinzel bought out Mr. Steitz's interest and took in his brother Phillip as a partner, the firm becoming Kinzel Brothers; and now they have a large modern store filled with choice general merchandise. It is located at the corner of California and Kirk avenues, and there is also a warehouse with a floor space of 30 x 125 feet. Mr. Kinzel is a Republican in politics, but too good an American not to see the merit in political propositions often advanced by the opposite parties.

He was married at his old home to Miss Catherina Bier, a native of Samara, and the daughter of George Conrad Bier. The Kinzels are members of the Free Evangelical Lutheran Cross Church and he is a member of the Eagle Lodge.

PHILLIP DAUER.—A viticulturist, dairyman and carpenter and expert builder, is Phillip Dauer, who was born near Volga, Russia, on January 3, 1873, the son of Gotlieb Dauer, a carpenter and a farmer who died in the vicinity of his home in 1887. He had married Marie Wulf; and his widow is now living.

Phillip, who is the only child living, was brought up on a farm while he attended the neighborhood school; and for four years he served his apprenticeship as a carpenter. He worked for his brother at the same time that he learned how to paint. And he followed his trade as long as he was in his native country.

In 1902, having crossed the ocean to America, he pushed west to Arlington, Minn., and there he went to work on a farm. Later he followed the carpenter's trade; and being a painstaking mechanic, he was never without employment. In fact, whether as a skilled laborer or as a farmer, the quality of Mr. Dauer's service was always such that he gave general satisfaction.

Three years after settling in Minnesota, Mr. Dauer moved still further West and settled in Fresno, where he again took up work as a carpenter. He helped construct the building at Zapp's Park. On January 24, 1909, Mr. Dauer located in Barstow Colony and bought his present place of twenty-five acres. He engaged in dairying and the raising of alfalfa, and as he prospered, he bought twenty acres more. This last tract he set out to Thompson's seedless grapes. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, where his cooperation is appreciated.

Mr. Dauer is not the kind of a man who withholds any assistance needed that he may render. Barstow Colony felt the want of a carpenter; and he has continued to contract and to build; and while adding to his enterprise, he has done much to solve the problem of new residences for the community.

Mrs. Dauer was Miss Mary Jacoby before her marriage, which occurred in Russia; and she is the mother of nine children, all of whom are living. They are Susie, now Mrs. Seibert of Selma; and John, Phillip, Peter, Edward, Henry, William, Amelia and Mollie, who reside at home. The family are Lutherans, and encourage each worthy movement for the moral uplift and educational improvement of the neighborhood.

FIRMIN YZURDIAGA.—An enterprising and progressive farmer and dairyman of Fresno County Firmin Yzurdiaga was born in Pamplona, Navarra, Spain, December 22, 1884, the second oldest of a family of seven children born to Vincente and Micaela (Elcano) Yzurdiaga who were industrious farmers in their native land; the mother died when Firmin was only twelve years of age while his father still lives at the old home. Firmin was reared to the life of a farmer and his educational advantages were necessarily limited because he was early set to work to help support the family. Striking out for himself in October, 1904, he came to the city of Mexico, where he was employed for five months, until April, 1905, when he came to Los Angeles. Finding employment on farms near La Puente until 1908, he then came to Fresno County and here he worked on farms until 1911. He then purchased a herd of dairy cows, leased land from M. Theo. Kearney and engaged in dairying. He leases 160 acres from the Kearney estate and he now has a herd of 140 cows. He also owns a twenty-acre vineyard on the corner of California and Hayes Avenues. Mr. Yzurdiaga was united in marriage in San Francisco May 12, 1912, to Miss Eulalia Amorina who was also born in Pamplona, Spain; she is the daughter of Miguel and Firmina (Ygoa) Amorina, the latter died in 1917 while the father is still living at the old house. Of their ten children seven are still living. Mrs. Yzurdiaga being the eighth in order of birth. She received a good education in her native place; coming to California in 1911 she resided in Stockton and San Francisco until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Yzurdiaga are both members of the Catholic Church in Fresno. Believing in protection he is a Republican in national politics.

ANTONIO FARETTA.—One of the adopted citizens of Fresno County, who has forged ahead without making any fuss about it, is Antonio Faretta. He was born in the Province of Potenza, Italy, October 28, 1875. He attended the village school until his eighth year, when he went to work, but kept up his school at night. Upon reaching manhood, he served thirty months in the Italian army, and returning to his home village in 1898 was married to Cathrina Masucci, who had come to America when six years of age, and had returned to Italy. Antonio's father had also come to America and was located in Oakland, Cal. Soon after the son's marriage he and his wife started for America with just enough money to reach this side, arriving in 1898, and going to Oakland. After working for wages in Oakland for eighteen months, he came to Fresno County in 1900 and for six months was employed by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, and for the next two and a half years worked on ranches in the county. He then followed work in various lines until, in 1904, he started a grocery store at 1301 Fresno Street, one of the first to engage in business on the West Side. This was a small frame building, and his business grew from the start and to such proportions that finally, in 1913, he erected his present two-story brick building, which enables him to better supply his still increasing trade. He also owns a twenty-acre ranch on Shields Avenue, planted to Thompson seedless grapes. He is a successful, self-made man. He has four children, all born in California: Mamie, Rosie, Marie Antoinette and Theodore.

ADAM RUDOLF.—A native of Russia, who is today, after fifteen years in Fresno, not only one of the patriotic of adopted American citizens, but also one of the most enterprising and successful, is Adam Rudolf, the well-known vineyardist, who is particularly proud of the fact that he improved his ranch himself. He was born at Popofkina, on the Volga River, Samara, on January 6, 1873, and his father, also Adam Rudolf, was a farmer before him. There were four boys and six girls in the family, and of this group, two boys are in Fresno County.

Growing up under conditions both favorable and unfavorable, Adam nevertheless enjoyed the usual popular schooling until he was fifteen, and from that age followed farming as the means of a livelihood. In some respects, Russia is a great agricultural country, and so his opportunity to be well grounded in certain fundamental things in farming was good. When he had somewhat established himself, he married Miss Annie Lung, a native of the section. She was the daughter of Henry Lung, a well-situated farmer; and when they had set up their little household, they farmed on a place of fifteen acres that they owned.

Deciding to come to America and California, of which they had heard such inspiring tales, Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf disposed of their holdings, and in 1902, with their one child, they crossed the ocean and the continent, and arrived in California. He was fortunate in securing work in a vineyard; and so, in addition to becoming a viticulturist with the best of training, he learned the best methods of managing such an enterprise.

Thus encouraged by his progress, Mr. Rudolf in 1911 bought his present place of twenty acres in the Barstow Colony—a tract all stubble when he took hold of it, but which yielded to his persistent hard work. He set out a vineyard of eleven acres of Thompson's seedless, and also planted four acres each to peaches and alfalfa. And when he had thus equipped himself for ranch enterprise, he joined the California Peach Growers, Inc., of which he is a stockholder, and the California Associated Raisin Company, and gave his cordial support to the excellent work yearly undertaken and accomplished by both of those organizations.

Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf have one child, a boy named Adam; and they are also rearing a very attractive girl, Marie Busch. The family are members of the Free Cross German Lutheran Church, in Fresno.

HENRY EISNER.—An enterprising viticulturist and horticulturist, whose reputation for up-to-date methods has undoubtedly been augmented through the able cooperation of his excellent wife, is Henry Eisner, a resident of Kerman. He was born at Varnburg, Samara, Russia, on November 11, 1885, the son of Peter Eisner, a farmer who is still living at the ripe age of about sixty-one years. The good mother was Katherina Elizabeth Kinzel before her marriage, and she died in 1889. She had two children, and the older, the only one in the United States, is the subject of this sketch.

Henry was brought up on a farm and attended the public school of his locality; and there, on September 20, 1906, he was married to Miss Marie Katharine Schmall, a native of Varnburg, where she was born on September 24, 1885. Her parents were Henry and Kathrina Elizabeth (Andreas) Schmall; they were farmer folk of the sturdy and respectable class; and they are still living, highly esteemed by those who know them. They had seven children, and Mrs. Eisner was the fourth oldest in the family.

On November 14, 1906, Mr. Eisner left for the United States and arrived in Fresno in February, 1907. He went to work at once in farms and vineyards, and continued in that field for five years. Then he entered the employ of the Fresno Cooperaage Company and learned the cooper's trade, at which he worked for another four years.

In 1914 he bought twenty acres at Biola; and as it was raw land, he set to work vigorously to improve it. He set out Thompson seedless grapes and built the property up. Three years later, Mr. Eisner sold the ranch and bought the twenty acres he is at present proprietor of and which he is making one of the choice small properties in Vinland. He has built a fine new residence and erected other outbuildings so desirable on such a farm, made a large, roomy yard. Whoever visits the ranch does not fail to admire both its natural attractions and the improved values added to it through the foresight and hard work of the owner. Mr. Eisner belongs to the California Associated Raisin Company and supports its programs vigorously.

Seven children have gladdened the home life of Mr. and Mrs. Eisner. Lizzie is the first born, and the others in order are: Peter, Henry, Herman, Rosie, Elsie and Mary. The family attend the Lutheran Church at Fresno.

In national politics Mr. Eisner is a Republican; but there is no more loyal, non-partisan supporter of good local measures designed to build up the community.

OTTO P. HEMMINGSEN.—Denmark has sent some good men to America and among those who have made good records for themselves, is Otto Hemmingsen, who came to Fresno County in 1906. He was born in Stege, Island of Moen, Denmark, in 1876, and was educated in the public schools until he was fourteen, when he was apprenticed to a butcher in the town of Nestred, where he worked at the trade for four years. March 1, 1904, marked an epoch in his life, for on that day he left for America in a White Star liner, landing in Boston but coming on to Chicago. Here he was variously employed for two years, and in the fall of 1906 he came to Fresno County and was engaged at once at his trade in Fresno. He remained here until 1908 when he embarked in the business at Kearney Park, where he stayed for ten months when he sold out and went to Clovis, buying a market already established, continuing there until October 3, 1914, when he sold and located in Rolinda. Here he bought out the meat market of H. O. Bowen, improving and enlarging the business, adding a slaughterhouse and a large refrigerator plant. He has three trucks for delivery and covers a large territory. He owns ten acres of land which he devotes to grain-raising but will set to vineyards. He is renting pasture and feeding cattle for his own butchering.

Mr. Hemmingsen was married to Miss Anna Petersen, a native of Denmark. He is a member of the Danish Brotherhood, is a successful business man, liberal and enterprising, occupying a high place in the estimation of his neighbors.

RUDOLPH AXT.—A rancher and vineyardist of the Barstow Colony, one of the highly cultivated districts of Fresno County, Rudolph Axt was born in Jost, Samara, Russia, October 17, 1875, and his parents have both passed away in that country; the mother, Christine (Freis) Axt, in 1880, and the father, Gottlieb Axt, in 1909. They were the parents of six children, five of whom are now living, Rudolph being the youngest of the family and the only one in California. He was brought up on the home farm in Russia, and educated in the public schools there. In 1897 he entered the Russian army, in the Twelfth Regular Infantry, and served until 1903, being stationed at Port Arthur for six years as a non-commissioned officer. In 1903 he was honorably discharged and in 1905 again entered the army, serving fourteen months in Harbin and Vladivostock.

In the year 1903, Mr. Axt was married, to Miss Anna Schleiger, born in Freidendohl, Russia, and after his honorable discharge the second time from the army, he engaged in farming in his native land. In 1907 the young couple came to America, and settled for a time in Hoisington, Kans., where Mr. Axt was employed in the roundhouse of the Missouri Pacific Railway. In 1909, they came to Fresno, and here he worked at house-moving for a year, then for eighteen months was with the Santa Fe Railway in the roundhouse.

The year 1911 saw his first venture in ranching in the new country; he then bought twenty acres in the Barstow Colony, and set nine acres to Thompson seedless and the balance to alfalfa, which he cultivates and keeps in splendid condition. In 1917 he bought another twenty-acre ranch, improved it, and sold the property in six months' time.

Mr. and Mrs. Axt have seven children: Rudolph; Rosie; Annie; Christene; Marie; Cecelia; and Wilhelm. The family attends the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Barstow, and Mr. Axt is a teacher in the Sunday school there. In politics he favors the Republican party, and he takes an interest in the advancement of his home district.

ERNEST SCHMITZ.—One of those who settled in Fresno County in the beginning of its advancement and with good business judgment and foresight elected to stay and grow in prosperity with the rapidly growing community, Ernest Schmitz has been amply repaid for his early struggle, and has become identified with the progress and upbuilding of this section. Born in Nebraska City, Nebr., July 27, 1863, he later lived near David City, Butler County, on a farm, coming to California, in 1875, with his father. Peter, an older brother, and Gustav, had preceded them about four years. Mr. Ernest Schmitz located near Santa Ana, and worked on ranches and teaming. Later he followed teaming in Pasadena in its first upbuilding and development, and hauled brick for the new buildings that were being constructed at that boom period in Southern California. When the bottom fell out of it, in 1888, he and a friend starting for Seattle drove up the valley to Fresno, where Mr. Schmitz decided to locate and he has since made his home here. In debt when he arrived, he started to buy hay from the farmers and sell it in the courthouse square where the free market is now located. As his business grew he put on more teams and soon had four teams busy. Later he opened a hay and grain store on H and Fresno Streets, and carried on his growing business there for six years. During that time he had bought a city block, bounded by Fresno, Mariposa, D and E Streets. In 1906 he moved onto this block and erected warehouses and corrals, together with office buildings, and here he is still engaged in selling grain and hay, shipping to different parts of California by the carload.

Mr. Schmitz purchased 160 acres, nine miles south of Fresno, on Walnut Avenue, part of which was in alfalfa for three years, and later he plowed the land and planted eighty acres to vineyard, of the Thompson seedless variety. He recently sold this holding at a good profit. He now owns two alfalfa ranches, one of fifty and one of eighty acres west of Fresno, on

Belmont Avenue, 150 acres on the State Highway and a fig, olive and alfalfa ranch in Madera County. In former years he farmed grain on rented land, as high as 2,000 acres, on the Collins ranch, northeast of Clovis, on the San Joaquin River, and other parts of the county, running over sixty head of mules in his operations. Mr. Schmitz has also speculated in city real estate, buying two lots on Tulare Street near the Santa Fe depot for \$1,700; later added two more lots to his purchase for the sum of \$2,000, and in six years' time these lots were sold for \$20,000, an example of the phenomenal advance in real estate in Fresno in recent years. In addition to his hay and grain business, Mr. Schmitz has been a large dealer in hogs, mules and horses. Mr. Schmitz in 1914 built his large modern residence at 207 Coast Street.

The marriage of Mr. Schmitz united him with Ada Morgan, born in Wisconsin and four children were born to them; Vera, wife of William McAllister of Fresno; Cleone, graduate of the Fresno State Normal, was a teacher, now wife of Ben Brown of Fresno; Bertha, a graduate of Fresno High School, now attending Cora Williams Institute, Berkeley; and Ernest, attending the Fresno High, all born in Fresno.

JOE PRANDINI.—A hard-working, energetic Italian who came to America a poor boy is Joe Prandini, the rancher and dairyman of Lanare, who has made more than \$25,000 worth of improvements during the last ten years. He has a well-improved dairy ranch of 206 acres at the new town, has built two excellent dairy and hay barns, a brick cheese factory and a storage cellar of cement, and introduced other up-to-date appliances saving time and labor and conducing to sanitary requirements. All his land but twenty acres has been put into alfalfa. He is a good manager and has profited through personal friendship with John Cerini, the dairyman and capitalist.

Guiseppe Prandini, was born at Comero, Italy, on June 29, 1877, and in that country grew to maturity. His father, Innocent Prandini, had married Barbara Trappa, and he busied himself as a farmer and cheese maker. They had three children: Silvestro Prandini, a cavalier in Italy, is a dairy inspector, having graduated from Italian schools for milk products. Carlo came to California three and a half years ago, also a graduate of cheese making and other courses, and he is now a cheese maker here. The third in the order of birth was the subject of this review. He, too, attended these dairy schools and when twenty he was seized with the ambition to make his fortune in California, so he crossed the ocean to Canada, and from there made his way to San Francisco, landing there on December 15, 1901. He went to Mendocini County, thence to Santa Barbara, after that to Hanford, in Kings County, and then rented a farm and ran a cheese factory at Guernsey; for seven years he was the tenant of H. C. Smith, the cheese maker, near Guernsey.

In 1908 Mr. Prandini bought 206 acres of land at Lanare, and there made all the improvements. He has also put in a steam plant, an artesian well, costing \$4,200.

Mr. Prandini has lately leased his valuable ranch and cheese factory for three years to his brother Carlo and two associates, Andria Mandora and Cardiga Paolin, who have formed the firm of Carlo Prandini & Company. He also sold to the lessees about 150 head of live stock, including some seventy-five cows and the balance in hogs and horses. In Lanare Mr. Prandini built the Lanare Garage building; the store building, the meat market building and the ice-cream and confectionery store and a blacksmith shop and has put up a large tank house which stores the water supply for Lanare.

At Hanford Mr. Prandini was married to Miss Rosa Fahccini, a native of Italy, by whom he has had four children—Innocent, Peter, Teressa and Barbara. When he has completed the changes for his temporary successors, he and his good wife will return to Italy and enjoy, among old environments and with old-time friends, a well-merited vacation.

HENRY J. ENGELMAN.—Born in Wolzgaja, on the River Volga, Samara, Russia, November 29, 1878, H. J. Engelman is now a resident of Fresno County, Cal., where he has improved a ranch of forty acres in the northwestern portion of the county and has set thirty acres of his land to Thompson seedless grapes and the balance is in alfalfa. He is a son of Henry and Mary (Dabus) Engelman, the former a farmer in Russia before he came to the United States in 1903, when he landed in New York and remained there until 1915, when he came to Fresno County and is living retired. His wife died when her son and only child was but three weeks old.

Henry J. received a common-school education, grew to young manhood on a farm and on January 10, 1900, started for America, with Fresno as his final destination, in which city he arrived on March 6, that year. He was young and strong and went to work at ranching, worked in various parts of the county, then for two years in the Craycroft brickyards, and one year in Prescott's brickyard. By 1909 he had saved up enough money to make a payment on a twenty-acre ranch thirteen miles northwest of Fresno, put it in alfalfa and began dairying. Four years later he sold his cows, the land being too valuable for dairy purposes, and set out thirty acres to Thompsons. In the meantime he had made all the improvements for a comfortable home place, thereby setting an example for others.

Mr. Engelman was married on January 30, 1902, in Fresno, to Miss Christina Horgenrader, born in the same town in Russia as her husband, and they have ten children: Henry; Rosie; Katie; Edward; Emma; Mollie; Philip; George; Harry; and Theodore, all at home and growing into useful men and women. Mr. Engelman and his family are members of the Lutheran Church in Fresno, and he has been superintendent of the Sunday School in the Barstow branch of the church. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and in national politics is a Republican. He is well-liked and is an upright and honest citizen.

FRED WAGNER.—Taking his place among the energetic and capable ranchers of this section, Fred Wagner is demonstrating that the determination to succeed is a large factor in the struggle of life. Born in Hussenbach, Saratof, Russia, February 16, 1879, he is a son of Jacob and Mary (Schwab) Wagner, both natives of that country and now deceased. Of their four children, three are living in California, Fred, the youngest in the family, was raised on the home farm, and educated in the public schools. When twenty-one he served in the Russian Army for five years and nine months, and saw action in the Russian-Japanese War, in Manchuria, winning three medals of honor. At the close of the war he received his honorable discharge, and on his return home decided to come to the United States.

Mr. Wagner married in Russia, February 14, 1900, before going into the army, his bride being Miss Maggie Bauer, also born there. In 1907 they sold their belongings and came to California, and in January of that year located in Fresno. Here Mr. Wagner found employment on ranches, and later moved to Sanger where he was with the Home & Bennett Lumber Company for four years. They then returned to Fresno and for eighteen months he was in the employ of the Grand Central Hotel, then in Madary's Planing Mill and also in others.

Wishing to have a ranch and home, Mr. Wagner traded his residence in Fresno for twenty acres on Shields Avenue, in Empire, thus making the first payment on the property, in 1915. He located on the ranch and built his home and set about improving his holding, setting out Thompson seedless grapes, and now has about seventeen acres in this productive vine.

Five children have come to Mr. and Mrs. Wagner, all of them born in Fresno County: Emelia; Jack; Alex; Edward, and Theodore. The family is of the Lutheran faith. Mr. Wagner is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and is alive to all projects for advancing the best interests of the county and its citizens.

KARL MARINUS ESKESEN.—A loyal American by choice, and quite as patriotic as any, Karl Marinus Eskesen is highly regarded in the community where he lives. He owns and operates a twenty-acre alfalfa ranch about a mile east of Lanare, Fresno County, from which, in 1917, he sold \$2,500 worth of alfalfa hay.

He was born in Denmark on May 11, 1870, the son of Eske Lauredsen, a farmer who owned and worked about forty acres. His mother, who had been Maren Jensen before her marriage, had four boys and a girl, and among them Karl was the youngest. He was educated in the public schools, brought up in the Lutheran Church, and trained on his father's farm.

After having served for six months in the Danish army, he sailed for New York where his brother Anton was engaged as a signalman on a New York railway. He obtained Karl a job, and for three months our subject was in the railway service. Then he went to work by the month for a Chenango County farmer and continued with him two years, when he moved west to Indianapolis and became a coachman for A. D. Pierce. After an experiment of six months, he concluded to go back to New York, and there he worked for a year on a farm. His next engagement was with the Remington Arms Company at Ilion, N. Y.; then he worked for a cabinet maker, and after that was in the service of the Remington Typewriter Company as a foundryman.

In 1907 he came to California, and for a while settled at Visalia, where he worked for a year on a fruit ranch. He next entered into a partnership with another man, rented a dairy farm and ran it for a year. Then, going into the oil fields of Coalinga, he bought a four-horse team of draft horses and soon after went to Taft, Cal., where he teamed, and later went to Fellows and for eight months teamed for the Santa Fe.

On New Year's Day, 1913, he came to Lanare, having the year previous bought twenty acres, and ever since he has made this section his home. He has a fine piece of land yielding nine tons of alfalfa to the acre and as high as six cuttings a year.

Mr. Eskesen showed his American patriotism by buying Liberty Bonds and helping on Red Cross and United War Work.

CONRAD O. NILMEIER.—Reared and educated in Fresno County, C. O. Nilmeier exemplifies the industry and perseverance which make for success. Born in Samara, Russia, February 9, 1884, he is a son of H. P. Nilmeier, who is represented on another page of this history. Conrad O. came to Fresno with his father in 1892, and received his education in the public schools, finishing with the high school course. At the age of sixteen, in January, 1900, he entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railway in the carshops as car-repairer. He gradually worked his way up, and was in turn car-inspector, then M. C. B. clerk, later assistant wrecking foreman, and continued with the company until 1911. That year he entered the employ of the San Joaquin Eastern Railway, owned by Stone & Webster, as joint inspector, remaining there for six months.

In 1912, Mr. Nilmeier left railroad work to engage in ranching; and on March 22nd of that year he bought his present ranch of twenty acres, located on Blythe Avenue between Church and Jensen, five miles west of Fresno, and has since devoted his time to viticulture, raising Muscat, Emperor, Malaga and wine grapes, and meeting with merited success.

The marriage of Mr. Nilmeier, which occurred in Fresno, united him with Miss Marie Scharton, also a native of Russia, who came here with her parents when eight years old and was educated in the Fresno schools. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Nilmeier: Edward Oliver; Roy; and Lydia Marie. The family attends the Lutheran Church in Fresno. In national politics Mr. Nilmeier supports the Democratic party. He can be counted on for support of all projects for bettering conditions in the Valley. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company.

FRED HORG.—Residing on his twenty-acre vineyard at Johnson and Olive Avenues, Fresno, is Fred Horg, who was born in Stepnoia, Samara, Russia, November 9, 1860, the son of Conrad and Margaret (Waller) Horg, farmers in that country. The father died in 1882 and the mother passed away in 1892. Fred is the second oldest of the six living children and was reared to farming. After he was married to Katie Scheidt they followed farming until 1907, when they sold out and came to California, locating in Fresno, where he was employed in packing houses, orchard and vineyards until 1918, when he purchased twenty acres, where the family now reside which he devotes to raising Muscat and Thompson seedless raisins and peaches. He has a splendid and well improved place and understands and has had considerable experience in horticulture and viticulture. To Mr. and Mrs. Horg have been born three children: Fred, Henry and Annie. The family being members of the Lutheran Church in Fresno. Mr. Horg believes in cooperation and is a member of the California Peach Growers, Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company.

EUGENE TOMASETTI.—A representative of the influential Swiss and Americans is Eugene Tomasetti, a dairy farmer, a mile northeast of the Burrel station, having leased the H. A. Adams place for five years. Here he lives with his wife and two children. He puts up about 200 tons of alfalfa and barley, and keeps 200 cattle, and seventy-five to 100 hogs.

Mr. Tomasetti was born at Cujnasco, Canton Ticino, Switzerland, on April 1, 1888, the son of Bob Tomasetti, who was a stone cutter, and owned a small vineyard. He died when Eugene was only fifteen, leaving a widow and six children. Rosa is now the wife of Domingo Mignola, a dairyman near Riverdale; Desolina has become Mrs. Archilli Sasselli, a dairyman on the neighboring ranch; owned by Ross Jones; Elvira resides at Modesto; Eugene was the fourth in the order of birth; Florinda is married and resides in Switzerland; and Clementina also lives there, single.

His oldest sister had preceded Eugene to America and was living at Bakersfield; and when eighteen left his home, landing at New York, on May 7, 1906, reaching San Francisco six days later. He next went to Bakersfield, and thence to San Jose, and near there he took his first job on a dairy ranch. Then he came to Rolinda and for two or three years worked on the dairy ranch there. After that he returned to San Jose and then went to Burrel.

While at San Jose, Mr. Tomasetti was married in 1913 to Miss Gropetti Ersilia after which he worked on a dairy farm near by for three years, next coming to Burrel to take the present lease.

Two children have blessed the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tomasetti: Rena and Louis. Mr. Tomasetti's mother is still living in Switzerland.

PHILIP GILARDONI.—A progressive and prosperous farmer and dairyman, Philip Gilardoni lives on a 160-acre dairy farm which is a part of the Burrel estate. He operates this place in partnership with Gildo Acquistapace, the firm name being, Gilardino and Acquistapace. They keep and milk a herd of seventy-five high-grade Holstein cows. The family and the partner, reside on the ranch, which is well provided with up-to-date house, dairy barn and milk house. Philip Gilardoni was born in the village of Bel-lagio, in the Province of Como, in view of beautiful Lake Como, as was also his wife, in the picturesque state of Lombardi, Italy, on November 22, 1885, being the seventh child of Baptiste and Mary Angelotte Gilardoni, there being eleven children in the family in all. The parents were farmers in moderate circumstances in Italy. The father died in 1917 aged seventy-two and the mother, September 18, 1918, aged sixty-five. By taking advantage of the night schools, Philip obtained a very fair education, and at eleven went to learn the plasterer's trade, which in Italy includes stone and brick masonry, building chimneys, electrical wiring, etc. He continued at this trade until he became twenty, and then entered upon his course of three years military

training under the Italian Government. He was assigned to the training camp at Milan, and owing to his splendid physical stature, was assigned to the "Alpine" service. At twenty-three years of age he resolved to come to America, and landed at Galveston, Texas, in December, 1908. He came straight through from Galveston to California by rail, and secured work on a dairy farm at Napa where he worked steadily for three years. He then went to San Francisco where he engaged in doing janitor work. It was while living in San Francisco, that he was married June 26, 1911, to Miss Santina Gondola, who had journeyed from her home in the same state of Italy, to join her sister, Mrs. Romilda Delfonte, at Soledad, Monterey County, Cal. Mrs. Gilardoni's father was Francisco Gondola, who was a flour miller by trade, and went to South America when she was a mere child, and was never heard from—in all probability having died there. Her mother kept the family together and brought them up at Gravadona, Italy. Mrs. Gilardoni had one brother, Basolio Gondola, who went to Buenos Ayres, S. A., when eighteen years old; he married there and became the proprietor of a woolen mill; but died their and left a widow and four children. Mrs. Gilardoni's mother's maiden name was Carolina Rainiri.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilardoni have one child, Italio. Sometime after marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Gilardoni came to Fresno County. At first they rented a farm near Lanare; they came to the present place in September, 1918, and through hard work have come to be regarded as being among the most prosperous people engaged in dairying in the Burrel section of Fresno County. They are consistent members of the Catholic Church. They take an active part in the Red Cross and take an interest and pride in patriotic and community service.

HENRY ENGELMANN.—One of the successful and progressive ranchers of the Barstow district, Henry Engelmann has developed two separate ranches in the county and brought them to a state of productiveness from the raw land, thus helping in the growth and increased wealth of this part of California. He is a native of Wolzgaia, Samara, Russia, born on the Volga River, September 24, 1871, a son of Christof and Mary Catherine (Small) Engelmann, both now deceased, the father in 1880, aged sixty-six years, and the mother in 1872, aged only twenty-nine.

Henry was the youngest of the family and was brought up on the home farm in Russia, where the family remained together after the mother's death. He was educated in the public schools and from fifteen years on, followed farm work, the only interruption being his term of service in the Russian Army, in the regular artillery; during this interval he learned the shoe and harness maker's trade, and was foreman in the shop.

In 1900 the young emigrant came to California and settled in Fresno. Here he found employment at teaming, which work he followed for seven years. In 1907 he bought a forty-acre ranch at Rolinda, on White's Bridge road, and set about improving it, putting in vineyard and alfalfa. This property he operated eight years, when he sold it and removed to Fresno. In 1918 he bought his present ranch of forty acres in the Barstow district, about fourteen miles northwest of Fresno; he found here a fine soil to work with, and put in wells and a pumping plant on the property, which is in Thompson seedless grapes, alfalfa, and grain—a fine ranch and speaking well for the character of its owner.

The marriage of Mr. Engelmann occurred in Russia in 1897, and united him with Miss Mary Elizabeth Engelmann, also born there, a daughter of Conrad Engelmann, farmer of that country. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Engelmann: Katie; Henry, Jr.; Elizabeth; Annie; Jacob; Philip, and George, all at home with their parents. The family attend the Lutheran Church of Fresno, of which organization Mr. Engelmann is ex-secretary. He is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company, and of the California Peach Growers, Inc.

JOHN PETER HUBER.—Though not a native of this country, J. P. Huber has done his share toward the agricultural development of Fresno County, and has shown his appreciation of the opportunities to be found here. Born on October 2, 1878, in Zaumora, Samara, Russia, he is a son of Henry and Louise (Helmuth) Huber. The father was a farmer in the old country and brought his wife and five children to Winnipeg, Canada, in 1898; and in 1900 located in Fresno. In about 1903 he bought a twenty-acre ranch and set it to orchard and vineyard and still resides there, together with his good wife. Five children born to them are living: John Peter, the subject of this biography; Chris; Sophia, who is Mrs. Fleming of Biola; Anna Katherine, who is Mrs. Schneider of Empire; and Lizzie, at home.

John Peter Huber was reared on the home farm in Russia and educated in the public schools there. Arriving in Winnipeg in 1898, he worked there until coming to Fresno, in 1900, with his parents. Here for the first three years he found employment in the Craycroft brickyards. Then with his father he bought forty acres of land, or twenty acres each, and set about improving it to a ranch; he developed his holding to Thompson seedless vineyard and peach orchards and operated it until 1914, when he sold out and bought his present ranch of forty acres on Shields Avenue in the Empire district, and this he has improved from an alfalfa ranch to Thompson seedless vines, twenty-six acres; four acres in apricot orchard, five acres in Malagas, and the balance to alfalfa; the land is under irrigation ditches and he has also installed a pumping-plant. He erected a modern bungalow residence in 1914. He has made the most of his opportunities in this growing section of the state, and regards California, and Fresno County particularly, as affording the best opportunities for advancement and prosperity.

Mr. Huber was married on May 15, 1900, in Winnipeg, Canada, to Anna Marie Huber, also a native of Samara, Russia, a daughter of John C. Huber, who brought his family to Winnipeg and resided there until his death. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. John Peter Huber: Mary; Mollie; Edward P.; Elsie Louisa; and Hilda Dora, all educated in the public schools and at home with their parents. The family attends the Cross Congregational Lutheran Church in Fresno. Mr. Huber has been a member and stockholder in the California Associated Raisin Company from its organization, and is a firm believer in cooperation among the ranchers. In politics he is a Republican.

SWISS SUPPLY COMPANY.—The enterprising mercantile company bearing the above caption, located at Riverdale, Cal., is owned by Delmo B. and Guy J. Badasci, under whose efficient management the business is meeting with deserved success.

The Badasci brothers are natives of the canton of Ticino, Switzerland. Delmo B. was born November 21, 1888, and Guy J. first saw the light of day in that canton on January 15, 1890. Although of foreign birth, the brothers are in every other way strongly American, not only by adoption and naturalization but from the fact that their father, James Badasci, was an early pioneer Californian gold miner, who, after having secured a competency, returned to his native land to claim for his bride Candida Muscio, to whom he was married in Switzerland. About the year 1892, the father returned to California, leaving his wife and children behind in Switzerland. The mother died in Switzerland in 1904, at the age of forty-five and soon thereafter Delmo B. and Guy J. joined their father in California, living at first in San Luis Obispo County, and later removed to Hanford in Kings County, where they operated a fruit ranch and where the father died at an age of sixty-seven years.

The Badasci brothers attended the public schools of San Luis Obispo and Kings counties and at an early age showed a strong tendency toward mercantile pursuits. In 1913, the brothers started in business at Riverdale, under the caption of the Swiss Supply Company. They conduct a general

merchandise store, making a specialty of carrying in stock those goods that are in demand by dairymen, as this section of the county is largely devoted to dairying, and the town of Riverdale is the home of two of the large creameries of the county, handling the milk from about 10,000 cows.

Both of the Badasci brothers are men of excellent business ability and unquestioned integrity, and have by close attention to business and courteous service, built up a very satisfactory and growing business. At present the store occupies the building vacated by the First National Bank of Riverdale.

Delmo B. Badasci was united in marriage with Miss Ida Catherine Ferrasci, a daughter of Louis Ferrasci the successful dairyman of Cambria, San Luis Obispo County; they have one child, Velma. Guy J. Badasci was joined in holy wedlock with Miss Pearl Cerutti of Riverdale, Cal., and also has one child, a daughter, Evelyn. The Badasci families are leaders in both the business and social circles of Riverdale and enthusiastically support every movement that has as its aim the upbuilding of the welfare of the community.

A. S. SERIMIAN.—An enterprising ranchman, who is a general fruit grower, is A. S. Serimian, who shares his prosperity with his industrious wife and children. He was born in Armenia in 1872, and grew up in his native country where his father had a small vineyard. In Armenia, too, he was married, when his bride was Mary Mardarosian; and there his four children, Martin, Leon, Manuel and Sarkis, were born. All were brought up in the Gregorian or Greek Church, and each received the best educational beginnings.

In 1908 Mr. Serimian and family came to America, and soon settled at Selma. At first he bought seventeen acres; then, in 1914, he added three more, and finally, in December, 1917, he purchased forty acres. Now he has a splendid tract of ninety acres five miles east of Selma. Fifteen acres of this attractive ranch are devoted to Thompson seedless grapes, while fifty-five acres are given to Muscats, each group of vines being set out in the most approved fashion. He has also ten acres of peaches, two acres of apricots and an acre of prunes.

In their comfortable residence Mr. and Mrs. Serimian and their family dispense American hospitality enriched by some of the most delightful of Armenian social customs.

Those who are familiar with the traditions of the Armenians in America know that they rapidly assimilate themselves with their new environment and thus early become most loyal American citizens. Mr. and Mrs. Serimian are no exceptions to the rule, and are among the first to lend a hand in all local endeavor, if by so lending they may raise the moral tone of the community.

JOHN AUGUST SWANSON.—A well-known California viticulturist, whose political affiliation as a member of the Progressive Republican party rather naturally indicates his generally progressive spirit, is John A. Swanson, one of the most efficient members of the California Peach Growers' Inc., and the California Associated Raisin Company, and an energetic advocate of the most up-to-date methods for the farmer of today. He was born at Halland, Sweden, on July 26, 1879, the son of Swen Larson, a farmer still active there. His mother was Johanna Hakenson before her marriage, and she died there in 1890. Three children of this worthy couple are still living—a sister, who is at the old home, and a brother, Carl Isaac, who is with the subject of this review.

John was reared on a farm and attended the Swedish public schools, and for a while he remained home while he followed farming. In his twelfth year he began to carry mail for the farmers, and at fourteen he entered the service of the Government as a sub-mail carrier.

He had studied English at his old home, so that it was possible for him, when he reached Ludlow, Pa., in 1903, to make himself easily understood. He was first employed in a factory, and then he worked in a store; after that he went into lumbering and was also employed on a pipe line, and then he became a traveling salesman in Pennsylvania and New York. In 1912 Mr. Swanson came to California and located in Fresno; and soon he was employed at Vinland in a vineyard and orchard. Then he entered the service of Mr. Roeding, in No. 1 vineyard, and after that he returned to Vinland. In January, 1913, he leased a vineyard and orchard of forty acres in Vinland. Now he conducts twenty acres of it, and he has leased other vineyards and orchards. In 1917 he bought forty acres on Madera Avenue in Vinland and moved onto it; and now he still runs twenty acres. He has set out fifteen acres in Thompson seedless grapes and five acres in a peach orchard. His brother, already referred to, operates the other twenty, which is in peaches, grapes and alfalfa.

Mr. Swanson is a member both of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Vinland and its board of trustees; and he also belongs to Ludlow Lodge No. 1026 Pennsylvania, of the Odd Fellows.

ELIAS GAMMEL.—Combining business acumen with unremitting industry, Elias Gammel has met with unusual success in his adopted land, and has won the respect of his fellow citizens as well. Transplanted into different surroundings from those of his birth, his courage was never daunted and he persevered until fortune favored him. Born on October 26, 1883, in Saratof, Samara, Russia, he is the son of Henry and Katherina (Kerber) Gammel, the father a grain and stock-farmer of that country; he died in 1891, and his good wife followed him just one month later. They were the parents of three children, two of whom are now living, Elias being the eldest and only one of the family in California.

Left an orphan early in life, Elias lived with an uncle, Mike Gammel, on a farm and attended the public schools. When fifteen years old he was apprenticed as a moulder in the foundry at Mariupel, where he completed his trade and worked at it until 1905. That year saw his marriage, to Miss Marie Veirt, also born in Saratof, and after this event he farmed for two years.

In 1907, Mr. Gammel came to Fresno, and worked on ranches for eighteen months. Then in 1909, he bought his ranch of twenty acres on Shields Avenue, and raised alfalfa and operated a dairy for two years. He then plowed the land and set out fifteen acres to Thompson seedless, the balance to alfalfa. In 1916 he bought twenty acres, one-eighth of a mile northeast, for \$3,000, set it to Thompson vines, and in 1918 sold the property for \$8,500. That same year Mr. Gammel bought twenty acres in the Biola district, in Thompson seedless vines, and disposed of it in record time. He then bought twenty acres in alfalfa in the same district and will set out Thompson seedless vines on this ranch also. As can readily be seen, he has developed considerable land in the county, and his judgment has proven excellent. He has studied English and become well-posted on affairs in his adopted country, and is a liberal and enterprising man.

Mr. and Mrs. Gammel have four children: Henry; Chris; Freda; and Edward. The family attends the Congregational Lutheran Church of Fresno. Mr. Gammel is a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. In politics he is a Republican.

CHARLES GUGLIELMONI.—Among those sturdy California pioneers who have started life under discouragingly adverse circumstances, and who have yet in time won out, is Charles Guglielmoni, who was born in the Canton Ticino, Switzerland, on February 3, 1877, the son of a successful contractor and bridge builder, who went to Australia and made a small fortune mining for gold, and on his return married Mary Agatha Calanchini, by whom he had three children. When he died, Charles was of tender years; and although his mother struggled nobly to keep the family together, it became necessary

for the boy, then a lad of only nine, to leave home and help the family by his meager wages.

An older brother, Martino, who died at Crescent City, California, when he was only twenty-three, was already established here, and he wrote home and encouraged the ambitious youth to come out and join him. Consequently, in the summer of 1891, he sailed from Havre and landed at New York, and finally reached California, arriving at Santa Rosa in October, 1891. He obtained work on a dairy farm; and as he was both willing and apt, he became proficient in every department of dairying, from the care of cows and calves to the manufacture of butter and cheese.

In 1903, with accumulated experience of the most practical kind, Mr. Guglielmoni moved to Fresno County and here married Miss Mary Baker, a native of Idaho, who came with her parents to Fresno, when only two years old. Together they have shared both joy and sorrow; for more than a year ago Death claimed one of their children. They still have five—Hildah, Harry, Lloyd, Earl and Mildred.

Mr. Guglielmoni has bought and owns ninety acres in Section 27, about two miles north of Burrel. He has a comfortable dwelling, large dairy and horse barns, and there is a cheese factory on his place. Wells furnish ample water, a good pumping plant distributes it properly, and a substantial tank house holds a good supply. He is looked up to as an industrious, enterprising and successful man, and his wife and family enjoy the respect and goodwill of their neighbors.

LOUIS PUCCINELLI.—One of the oldest residents of Firebaugh, a successful business man and public official who has the esteem and confidence of everyone is Louis Puccinelli, who was born at Mantuolo, Lucca, Italy, October 14, 1864. He received a good education in the local schools, at the same time aiding his parents on the farm. When twenty years old, as was the custom, he entered the Italian Army as a member of the Fourteenth Artillery Regiment, serving the required period of three years receiving his honorable discharge with the rank of Second Sergeant. In 1888 he came to San Francisco, where for two years he was employed in a hotel. Having saved his money, he engaged in the hotel business on his own account as proprietor of the El Capitan Hotel in San Francisco until 1897, then selling out he came to Firebaugh. He immediately purchased his present corner and built a small hotel, naming it the El Capitan Hotel, in which he was so successful that he outgrew his quarters and he built his present New El Capitan Hotel, a two-story, modern building the largest and most attractive in Firebaugh. He also owns other valuable property in the town among them two residences and a rooming house. He also became interested in viticulture some years ago, purchasing twenty acres of raw land at Dos Palos which he has improved to vineyard. He was appointed by Chris Jorgensen as road overseer in the first district about thirteen years ago, and since then has filled the office ably, his district being from Mendota to Dos Palos. In San Francisco he married Miss Henrietta Tofanelli also a native of Lucca who came to San Francisco about 1893.

They have five children: Henry is an engineer and served in the United States Army having just been discharged and is back home; Angelo, a graduate of Heald's Business College, San Francisco, is bookkeeper for the Canal Company at Los Banos; Emma is Mrs. Masini, residing in Firebaugh; Louise is a graduate of Butler School of Commerce, San Francisco, now filling the responsible position of bookkeeper for Miller & Lux at Firebaugh, and the youngest is Bruna. Interested in having good schools, Mr. Puccinelli has served as school trustee. Fraternally he is a charter member of Firebaugh Lodge, No. 335, Knights of Pythias. He is a member of the local lodge of Druids of which he has been treasurer for the past fourteen years; and is a member of the D. O. K. lodge. He is a Republican in national politics.

C. IRVIN HUSS.—An oil man, widely known throughout the Coalinga field as an experienced driller is C. Irvin Huss, who was born at Genoa, near Toledo, Ohio, in the memorable Centennial year of American history. His father was Noah B. Huss, a native of Sandusky County, Ohio, who came of an old "York State" family and served in the Civil War in the Seventy-second Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was married in Sandusky County to Rosanna George, who was born in the neighborhood. In the late sixties Mr. and Mrs. Huss removed to Ottawa County and settled on a farm in the Black Swamp near Genoa, about fifteen miles from Toledo, and there they improved a farm. They also purchased another one in Lucas County about seven miles from Toledo. There, in 1900, the wife and mother died. In less than two years after he had purchased the land, oil was struck upon his place, and the farm has been producing oil ever since. Noah B. Huss is still living and enjoying the fruits of his labors.

Of the nine children, C. Irvin is the fourth youngest. He was reared on the home farm, and educated in the local public schools. When eighteen years old, in partnership with his brother he purchased some land and engaged in getting out square timbers for the market, taking about three years to clear it up. In January, 1899, he was married in Toledo to Miss Mamie Seeger, who was born in Lucas County, Ohio, near the city of Toledo, the daughter of Fred Seeger, one of the early settlers of Lucas County, now deceased, although his wife is still living. After their marriage, Mr. Huss engaged in farming for a year, and then he began work in the oil business.

At first he was employed in the Oregon field in Lucas County, and there he commenced at the lower rung of the ladder. Then he engaged in contract teaming and afterwards was pumper and then tool dresser. In September, 1908, he moved to Coalinga, Cal., and spent the first summer drilling in the Devil's Den. When he returned to town he worked for Borchester for a year, and in March, 1911, he began with the Standard Oil Company on Section 28, and two years later he became driller—a place of responsibility which he has since filled very acceptably.

Mr. and Mrs. Huss have three children—Elinor, Basil and George. Fraternally, Mr. Huss is a member of the Knights of the Maccabees.

ALEXANDER P. SCHWABENLAND.—A resident of Fresno County for the past twenty-one years, A. P. Schwabenland has held a position of responsibility for the entire time of his residence here, and at the same time has developed a vineyard successfully, which speaks much for the character and energy of the man. He is a native of Russia, born in Straub, January 7, 1878, a son of Peter and Helen (Winter) Schwabenland, both still living there and engaged in farming. Of their thirteen children, nine are now alive, and A. P. is the second oldest in the family and with his sister, Annie Rudolph, are the only ones in America. He was raised on the home farm and received his schooling in the public schools of his native place. His marriage there, May 13, 1897, united him with Miss Katie Roth, also born there, a daughter of Conrad and Susie (Lehman) Roth, farmer folk, and still residing at the old home, the parents of five children, of whom Mrs. Schwabenland is the first, in order of birth, and she was born March 30, 1878. She has two brothers in Fresno County, Henry and Dana Roth.

In November, 1898, Mr. and Mrs. Schwabenland came to Fresno, and here Mr. Schwabenland found employment with the Fresno Brewing Company. He assisted in the building of the brewery and later became foreman of the cellars and cold storage department holding that position from 1900 until November, 1918, when he resigned to give his time to his ranch. In 1908 he bought twenty acres in American Colony, but sold out at an advance three months later. He built three residences in Fresno. The first was in the 200 block on E Street; the second was in the 400 block on F Street, and the third was in the Hazelwood addition. He sold each in turn and in 1915 he bought his ranch, twenty acres on Shaw Avenue, in Vinland Colony, estab-

lished his residence there and developed his property to Thompson seedless vineyards and a peach orchard.

Five children blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Schwabenland: Roy Alex, born in Russia, assisted his father on the home ranch, he enlisted June 5, 1917, in the Engineers of United States Army; Emma, deceased; Elsie, deceased; Pauline Theresa; and Frieda Helen. The family are of the Lutheran faith. Mr. Schwabenland is a member and stockholder in the California Peach Growers, Inc., and a member of the California Associated Raisin Company. In politics he supports the Democrat party. He is a member of the Fresno Aerie, No. 39, F. O. E. His success is deserved and achieved through his years of steady application and sturdy habits of life.

EMANUEL PORTA.—Born at Campo, a town founded A. D., 970, in the Canton Ticino, Switzerland, on March 4, 1875, Emanuel Porta is the son of Guisseppi Porta, a coppersmith by trade, a landowner and farmer, who farmed in summertime and worked at his trade in the winter. His mother came from the Genazzi family. Her Christian name was Elizabeth, and she died in 1904, seventy-eight years old. The father lived to be eighty-four. They had thirteen children, six boys and seven girls; and seven are still living.

Brought up in the Catholic faith, Emanuel completed the grammar school grades and obtained his diploma at fourteen. His eldest brother, Jim, had come to California in 1871, but returned to Switzerland in 1896, after the death of his father, whose executor he was; and he still lives there. His letters from California interested Emanuel, and the lad was seized with a desire to come out to the Pacific.

He left home on February 17, 1892, sailing from Havre, France. He landed in New York and soon after came West to San Francisco, where he arrived on March 7, 1892. His brother met him in San Francisco and went with him to Ignacio, Marin County, where he took a job on a dairy farm and continued to work for wages until September, 1905, when he came to what is now Riverdale.

For a year he ran the place of Louis Gobby on shares, but was drowned out in the overflow, and then he worked for wages for two years for Mr. Gobby. Then he rented S. Zanolini's ranch of 189 acres, buying the cows and paying cash rent. Then October 1, 1912 he bought this place.

In 1915 Mr. Porta was married to Miss Louisa Gonzinotti, by whom he has had two children: Lydia and Mabel. Her father is Edowardo and her mother Virginia Gonzinotti, long residents of the Canton Ticino, Switzerland, and they are both living as farmer folk in Italy. There were six girls and five boys in the family, of whom seven children are still living; and two of Mrs. Porta's brothers are Giacondo Gonzinotti and Miradio Gonzinotti, of the village of Mosognio, Switzerland, who compose the firm of Gonzinotti Bros., well-known farmers and dairymen.

Mr. Porta has been a naturalized American citizen since 1900, when he was admitted to citizenship at San Rafael by Judge Frank M. Angellotti, now Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of California. He is a Republican, but aims to vote for principles and men of principle. He is a stockholder in the bank and creamery, and helped to organize both.

THEODORE RATHMANN.—Into whatever portion of the world the natives of Denmark have chosen to make their adopted homes, there they have always exemplified in their lives the traits that make for success; industry, integrity and thrift.

The subject of this sketch, Theodore Rathmann, the well-known blacksmith of Tranquillity, was born in Brovst, Jylland, Denmark, February 16, 1884, a son of Carl Ludvig and Johanna Marie (Petersen) Rathmann. His father was a saddler and harness maker by trade, and conducted a shop at Brovst.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rathmann were the parents of six children, five of whom grew to maturity, the youngest member being Theodore and the only representative of the family in California. When fourteen years of age Theodore was apprenticed to a blacksmith for three and one-half years, and after becoming a journeyman blacksmith, continued to follow his occupation in Denmark until he came to California.

It was in 1909 that he located in Fresno County where he secured employment with C. M. Jacobsen, at Rolinda, but remained only a short time with him, later going to work for Martin Hald, in the same place, where he remained six months. Afterwards Mr. Rathmann was employed as a blacksmith for the Lauritzen Implement Company, at Fresno, where he remained for about one and a half years.

Believing that his business interests would be best served by owning a shop of his own, Mr. Rathmann determined to establish a blacksmith shop at Tranquillity, Fresno County, and on January 1, 1912, he opened his new enterprise. Being a splendid workman, he soon built up a good business, which began to gradually expand, and in due time he had saved enough money to purchase the corner lot on which he built his present large shop.

In addition to regular blacksmithing, he operates an auto repairing shop and has equipped his place with a gas engine and the most modern machinery. Besides these lines of work he is also a dealer in farming implements.

In Fresno, on December 20, 1913, Theodore Rathmann was united in marriage with Miss Katarina Nielsen, born near Odense, Fyen, Denmark. Her parents were Mads and Maren (Jorgensen) Nielsen, the former still living. They were the parents of twelve children, nine of whom are living. Mrs. Rathmann being the youngest of these. She came to California in 1902, when about fifteen years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Rathmann have been blessed with one child, Robert. They both belong to the Lutheran Church, and Mr. Rathmann is a member of Dania No. 5 at Fresno, and is a stockholder of the First National Bank of Tranquillity.

